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C. D. BRIGHAM, Editor.

M. P. EVAN, Business Manager.

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☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Editorial Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the Family

☞ TERMS OF THE WEEKLY. Per Year (52 issues), $2 00; in Clubs of Twenty, $1 50; one copy gratis to the getter-up of the Club.

The money must always accompany the order, and in no instance can there terms be deviated from.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. IX. PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 22, 1871. NO. 90.

FIRST EDITION.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Removal of Catacazy Announced—Relations of Russia and Germany.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 21.—The *Messenger*, the official organ of the Government, announces for the first time the removal of Minister Catacazy from Washington, owing, it says, to personal difficulties which might prejudice the good feeling existing between Russia and the United States. The same official authority, in an article on the present aspect of Europe, says other powers should see no danger to themselves in the friendship of Russia and Germany. Their common interests are sufficient to explain their mutual close ties, but no State should so far count on Russia's forbearance as to think of absorbing another.

An imperial ukase makes compulsory the use of the Russian language in the schools of Poland.

Bismarck Threatens France.

BERLIN, December 21.—The Emperor has prorogued the session of the Prussian Diet for the 8th of January, 1872.

Bismarck has sent a dispatch to Baron Von Arnim, German representative at Paris, setting forth the feeling of exasperation caused in Germany by the outrages perpetrated on her soldiers in France. He threatens to sieze hostages in the occupied provinces unless the assassins in future, who escape into neighboring provinces, are delivered up to German officers by the French authorities, and declares that unless these horrible outrages cease, the army of occupation shall be increased, and the expense and burden of its support, which is paid by France, doubled.

The New Spanish Ministry.

MADRID, December 21.—The new Ministry is as follows: Sagasta is President of the Council and Minister of Interior; Malcampo is Minister of Marine; Deblas is Minister of Foreign Affairs; Condau is Minister of Public Works; Topete is Minister of Colonies; Augulo is Minister of Finance; Gammeles is Minister of War; Groizeard is Minister of Justice. Of these Malcampo, Condau, Deblas and Augulo were members of the last Ministry. The Government will now move for a dissolution of the Cortes.

MADRID, December 21.—Admiral Topete and Senor Angulo hesitate to accept the portfolios offered them in the Sagasta-Malcampo cabinet.

The Prince of Wales Improving.

LONDON, December 21.—The Prince is gradually gaining strength. It is reported that of the physicians who attended him Mr. Gull will be baroneted and Mr. Lowe knighted.

Steamer Lost with all on Board.

LONDON, December 21.—The steamer Delaware, Preston Master, which sailed this week from Liverpool for Calcutta, was totally lost yesterday off Scilly Island. All on board are supposed to have perished.

Miscellaneous Dispatches.

LONDON, December 21.—Mr. Grant Duff, M. P., in an address last night at Elgian, advocated perseverance in the commercial policy of the late Mr. Cobden. He treated the Internationalists with unsparing ridicule.

PARIS, December 21.—Thiers has issued a decree dissolving the Council of Algiers.

LONDON, December 21.—The celebrated Tichborne trial, has reached another stage. The plaintiff's case closed to-day, and a further hearing was postponed until January 15th.

Marine News.

LONDON, December 21.—It was the British ship Windsor Castle which ran down the French bark Costa Rica, and her officers deny that they heard cries of distress from the Costa Rica.

The steamship Anglia has arrived.

FIRE IN PLEASANTVILLE.

Forty Families Rendered Homeless—Business Part of the Town Destroyed.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

TITUSVILLE, PA., December 21, 1871.

There was a destructive fire in the town of Pleasantville, seven miles from this place, this afternoon. The fire was first discovered in the New York Hotel, a little before four o'clock. That house, all the other hotels and the greater portion of the business part of the town were destroyed. About forty families are rendered houseless. Among the business houses burned are C. B. Seymour & Co.'s and Otto Germer's, besides a number of smaller establishments. The fire was subdued about six P. M.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

Lima, Lafayette and Mississippi.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

LIMA, O., December 21, 1871.

This morning a party of surveyors started on the line of the Lima, Lafayette and Mississippi Railroad from Lima, for the purpose of making a survey of the line through Ohio to the Indiana line. It is proposed to run three lines from Lima, and give estimates for each. The one finally adopted will probably be where the largest amount of aid in the construction can be obtained. Large and enthusiastic meetings have already been held in many of the interior towns, with promising results. Work will undoubtedly commence on this route in the Spring.

The Fort Wayne and Louisville Railroad

Has been reorganized, and is now in the hands of live men, who will push it to completion. It is expected that the road bed will be ready for the iron early in the Spring, between Findlay and Lima, and iron will be laid as soon as practicable.

Reunion of the 824 O. V. I. at Mansfield, Ohio.

Special Dispatch to Commercial.

MANSFIELD, O., December 21, 1871.

The largely attended reunion of the surviving members of the Eighty-second O. V. I. was held at the St. James Hotel, in this city, this evening. The exercises consisted of a grand banquet, after which came toasts and responses, music, anecdotes, bon mots, resolutions, &c. The dancing hall was handsomely decorated with flags, and the walls decorated with the names of the battles in which the regiment had been engaged, over thirty in number. The table was plentifully supplied, and the occasion was a very enjoyable one.

Small-Pox at Lima, O.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

LIMA, O., December 21, 1871.

Several cases of small-pox have appeared here, and two deaths have occurred by it, both colored men. It is now confined among the colored people, and there is but little fear of its spreading, as early sanitary measures were taken by our Board of Health to prevent it.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 21, 1871, 7:00 P. M.

PROBABILITIES.

The barometer will probably continue to rise to-night in New England, with falling temperature; falling barometer prevailing on Friday very generally east of Mississippi, with cloud and snow west of the Apalachian range yesterday; Winds will increase on the south Atlantic coast, with threatening weather and rain; southeast winds will move northeastward over Iowa and Missouri; cloudy weather extend over the Middle and Eastern States, with southwesterly winds; by Friday afternoon the area of lowest temperature will pass northeast into New Brunswick. Dangerous winds are not anticipated for the Atlantic coast to-night.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

They claim to have a veritable ghost in the building used as a Custom House in Chicago. One woman is positive she saw it.

N. P. Childs, a Louisville hotel clerk, died very suddenly on Wednesday, and poisoning is suspected. The contents of his stomach have been submitted to a chemist for analysis.

Fred. Hayle, a young German, was found lying on the street in Indianapolis, Wednesday night, so badly frozen that his recovery is doubtful.

A meeting of the President and Directors of the Toledo, Thorntown and St. Louis Railroad was held in Toledo yesterday. The required amount of local subscriptions have been secured, and the speedy opening of the route assured.

Two to fourteen degrees below zero at Chicago yesterday morning.

Andrew J. Perfect is to be hanged at Chicago for murdering his wife.

Mr. McCreary was elected to the United States Senate by the Kentucky Legislature, on Wednesday.

Two men were found in a shanty in Chicago yesterday, one frozen to death and the other nearly so. They went into the place the night before while very drunk.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

The Amnesty Bill Not Passed.

Adjournment for the Holidays.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 21, 1871.

After six hours wasted in profitless discussion, the Senate adjourned for the holiday recess, having the Amnesty bill unacted upon. The only amendment which was added to the bill came from Morton, and it was only successful after a third trial by a close vote—29 to 26. This amendment is simply to strike out Section 2 of the original bill, which declares that no one whose election to office was void at the passage of the bill shall be aided or made valid by its provisions. Mr. Sumner's equal rights amendment, which he pertinaciously urged all day, was lost, 30 to 29. Sawyer and Kellogg both made strong speeches, urging the immediate passage of the amnesty bill as a remedy for the Southern troubles, asserting that the proscription of the best men in the Southern States opened the door for fraud and corruption on the part of the worst kind of adventurers, who were thereby enabled to get office in the South. Mr. Logan also denounced those who would further continue to punish the South, and hit hard at Morton for his desire to defeat the measure through personal motives.

The Cincinnati Pension Agency.

The President to day sent a request to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Pensions, that the confirmation of General Bowen as Pension Agent at Cincinnati might be delayed till after the holidays, to give Mr. Davis time to settle his accounts. The Committee will report favorably on the nomination of Gen. Browne immediately after the recess.

Gen. Rosecrans's Plan.

Gen. Rosecrans is presenting a plan for the promotion of commerce and amity between the people of the United States and Mexico, by encouraging citizens of the United States to aid Mexico in the development of her resources.

The South Carolina Impeachment Case.

The present South Carolina delegation in Congress appear to be extremely indifferent as to what turn political affairs take in that State. Senator Sawyer says that he is perfectly willing that Scott should be impeached, and he is of opinion that such an event would have a beneficial effect on the Republican party, not only in South Carolina, but also in other Southern States. Well informed parties, recently from Charleston, are of opinion that Bowen will succeed in his impeachment programme, as members of the Legislature will be unable to resist the force of public opinion now being brought to bear against them to secure this end. John M. Morris, Executive Clerk of the Senate, charged by the administration organ with complicity in the South Carolina bond swindles, announces in the *Chronicle* this morning that he will test the truth of these charges in the Courts.

XLII. CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 21, 1871.

SENATE.

Mr. SUMNER offered a joint resolution amending the Constitution so as to confine the President to one term, and said Gen. Grant's civil service reform recommendations omitted this, the most important of all. This amendment would not go into operation until the 4th of March, 1876.

Mr. SUMNER offered a resolution directing the Committee on Retrenchment to inquire whether any money has been paid on account of any asserted claim of the Bay of Samana, and if so, how much and by whom, &c., &c.

The resolution is as follows. It was read and laid over:

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, &c., That the following article is hereby proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the constitution, to-wit:

ARTICLE 1, SECTION 1. No person who has held once the office of President of the United States shall be thereafter eligible to that office.

SECTION 2. This amendment shall not take effect until after the 4th of March, 1873.

At the expiration of the morning hour the unfinished business, the House bill for general amnesty came up. Mr. Morton's amendment, offered yesterday, was rejected, yeas 28, nays 29.

Mr. Sumner's amendment, adding the supplementary civil rights bill, was objected to by Messrs. THURMAN and TRUMBULL as not in order. The points raised being debated at length, were finally overruled by the chair. Mr. Sumner's amendment was then rejected, 29 to 30. Various other amendments were offered.

Without coming to a vote the Senate adjourned till the 8th of January.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House went into Committee of the whole on the State of the Union for general debate. The attendance was small, many members having gone home for the holidays. Mr. BLAIR, of Missouri, spoke in favor of general amnesty.

A message was received from the President, in answer to a resolution calling for information about Cuban matters.

The House adjourned till the 8th of January.

TROUBLE IN ARKANSAS.

A Whole County at the Mercy of a Mob of Armed Negroes—Citizens Call for Regular Troops.

MEMPHIS, December 21.—The last person who left Lake Village, the scene of the late outrages in Chicot county, Arkansas, reports that he was ordered by armed negroes on the route to return, which he refused to do, and succeeded in escaping. There was great excitement at the time, and from the screams of white women and children, who were seen rushing down the levee, it was supposed an attempt had been made to ravish the few white women unable to leave. Capt. W. Walker, the Republican Sheriff of the county, has made an application for regular troops to be ordered to quell the disturbance, it being feared that if militia are there, they, being colored, will fraternize with the insurgents. Every white citizen who could obtain a conveyance has left the county, which is being marauded by armed bands by colored men, the majority of whom are intimidated by the rioters, who have said they will not disband until they are allowed to settle all disputes they may have with those for whom they have worked. The Governor of Arkansas has sent his adjutant to the scene of disturbance, but in the meantime the leading Republican and Conservative citizens of the county have united in a petition for regular troops.

LITTLE ROCK, December 21.—As further details are received the interest increases among all classes in regard to the condition of affairs in Chicot county. A call for a public meeting at City Hall at eleven o'clock to-morrow has been issued by good citizens of all parties and both colors, including the entire City Council. The object of the meeting is to appoint a Committee to proceed to the Governor and other authority as to what is best to be done.

The ladies all buy their initial note paper of Gildenfenny & Hess, No. 45 Fifth avenue.

Almost Frozen to Death.

Frank Queen, a driver in the employ of Messrs. Whitmore, Cormey & Co., coal dealers, Sharpsburg, anceville, had a narrow escape from being frozen to death, Wednesday evening. About ten o'clock in the morning he left the yard with a load of coal which he was to deliver at a house in Allegheny. The weather being extremely cold, he stopped at a number of taverns on his way, and imbibed rather freely. He delivered the coal, after which he took several more drinks. He then got on one of the horses, but was so intoxicated that he forgot the road to the yard. He drove around a number of streets in Allegheny, when the horses took their own course and returned to the ferry landing about seven o'clock. A number of men residing in the boat-house, suspecting that something was wrong, went to the team, when they discovered that the driver was frozen. They carried him into the boat-house, where every attention was paid him. He returned to consciousness about ten o'clock yesterday morning, and in the afternoon had so far recovered as to be able to take charge of his team.

For toy books and games go to Gildenfenny & Hess, No. 45 Fifth avenue.

MR. W. G. DUNSEATH, the popular jeweler, was the recipient of a beautiful basket of cut flowers yesterday morning, from Messrs. Hiland & King of the West Penna. Nursery. The flowers are now on exhibition on Mr. Dunseath's counter.

Goods for the Holidays.

If any of our readers are in need of holiday goods we would advise them to call at the jewelry establishment of George W. Biggs, on Wood street, as he has just received and opened a large and varied assortment of goods expressly for holiday presents, and purchasers will not find a better place or assortment to make their selections. His stock of gold watches for both ladies and gentlemen is very fine, and the goods are of the best make, all warranted to be just as represented. Mr. Biggs has displayed excellent taste in the selection of coral, shell, cameo and gold sets, and exhibits a stock not surpassed by any other in the city. He has also a full assortment of bracelets of the various styles, as well as a full assortment of pendants, lockets, silver and silver-plated wares. You cannot fail to be suited both as to quality and price in any article in the jewelry line. Call and examine the stock.

The Sports at Loggerheads.

In the Prothonotary's office, yesterday, suit was entered by A. W. Davis against William Dill and J. Richard Davis for the recovery of $600, stakes on a horse race. The facts of the case, as far as developed, are these: Some weeks ago there was a proposition made by which certain parties were to run against two other horses for a purse of $500, and against a third horse for $1,000 on the same day. At the end of the race, it was declared that the driver of the loosing horse had received $300 for bringing about such a result. The backers of the $1,000 horse then protested against the payment of the stakes, and against the running of the second race. This was opposed by a number interested, and the thousand dollar horse was trotted over the course and awarded the prize. The discontented now bring suit to recover the amount of the stakes. The affair has created considerable talk among the sports, and promises to become interesting if a compromise of some kind is not effected.

Go to Gildenfenny & Hess, 45 Fifth avenue, for the stationery.

THE FIRE FIEND.

Three Fires Yesterday—Bole & Co.'s Machine Shop in Ruins—Tenement House in Temperanceville Destroyed—Slight Fire in Allegheny.

LAST NIGHT'S FIRE.

About a quarter past seven o'clock last night, an alarm of fire was sounded from box two on the corner of Penn avenue and Second street, in the First ward. It was occasioned by the discovery that the machine shop of H. M. Bole & Co., on the corner of Duquesne Way and Point alley, was on fire. The flames, which first made their appearance in that part of the building where the office was located, spread very rapidly, and it was but a very short time until the entire building was in a blaze. The shop was an iron-clad, and the wooden frame on which the sheet iron was nailed burned like tinder. In fifteen minutes after the fire had started the building was a mass of ruins. The firemen never worked more energetically or effectually than they did last night, and great credit is due the department for saving the Duquesne Forge, owned by Mr. William Miller, which was only separated from the building by a narrow alley. The row of little frame dwellings on Point alley were in great danger at one time, but fortunately the wind veered round and carried the burning cinders down the Allegheny wharf. The residents on Point alley had their effects removed to places of safety, but fortunately the houses escaped. Messrs. Bole & Co.'s loss may be roughly estimated at about $50,000. From the fact the members of the firm reside some distance from the city no facts could be ascertained in relation to the insurance, if any. The fire is supposed to have originated from the fire in the office stove.

FIRE IN TEMPERANCEVILLE.

Yesterday morning about eleven o'clock, a fire occurred in Temperanceville, resulting in the total destruction of a large frame tenement house located on Walnut street. The house was owned by Wm. Ainsworth, a plasterer by occupation, who lived in one part of the building, and had the remainder of the building rented to five other families. The flames spread rapidly as there was no means of checking them, there being no fire department in the borough. The citizens, however, worked faithfully and succeeded in confining the fire to the building where it originated. The families, fortunately, succeeded in saving most of their furniture. The loss will reach $8,000, on which there is an insurance of $1,200 on the "Leaming." The fire was caused by some red hot coals falling out of a grate in the second story.

About one o'clock in the afternoon, a man named David McMurray, residing in Union borough, while walking around the ruins, was instantly killed by a falling chimney.

SLIGHT FIRE IN ALLEGHENY.

About half past eleven o'clock yesterday morning, a fire broke out in the drying room of the Keystone Coffin Factory, on Beaver avenue near the car stables. An alarm was promptly sounded from box No. 3, which was quickly responded to. The "Good Will" was the first on the ground, and succeeded in extinguishing the flames in a few minutes. The loss will not exceed one hundred dollars.

One Babcock Fire Extinguisher vs. an Explosion of Sixteen Kerosene Lamps.

CURRAN HOUSE, STEVENS' POINT, }
December 12, 1871. }

DEAR SIR—A few evenings since, on a table at the head of the main flight of stairs, stood sixteen kerosine lamps just lighted for use. By the explosion of one, *all exploded*, and instantly a large and powerful fire was progress, which would have destroyed the hotel, and in all probability the entire business part of the city, had it not been for the prompt use of a Babcock Extinguisher which put the fire out in less than one minute. We express our appreciation we state that we would not part with our machines for $1,000, unless we could purchase others.

H. & T. D. CURRAN,
GEO. T. CARTER & Co., General Agents, 67 Fourth avenue.

FINEST stock of books in the city, at Gildenfenny & Hess', 45 Fifth avenue.

Misery.

One-half the misery and wretchedness of the present day may be justly attributed to a want of proper training in childhood. Parents would furnish their children with good and useful books and endeavor to cultivate in them a taste for wholesome reading, much of the profligacy would be avoided, and hundreds of the young men now on the high way to ruin might have been ornaments to society. Gildenfenny & Hess, No. 45 Fifth avenue, have a large stock of good and useful books, as well as a full line of goods for the holidays.

CHAIN and Band Bracelets at Haslett & Kennedy's, 79 Smithfield street.

Just Saved.

Last evening an officer found an old vagrant, named John A. Meyer, lying in front of a saloon on Penn street, near Sixteenth. They brought him in a wagon to the station house, where it was discovered that his hands were frozen. Such remedies as the lock-up afforded were brought into requisition, and after some relief had been afforded Meyer he was locked up for future disposition. He will likely be returned to the Poor Farm, where he has been before. Had the officer not found him when he did, he would undoubtedly have perished.

The finest stock of pocket books now in the city is at J. R. Weldin & Co.'s, 101 Wood street. They have them of fine Russia morocco and fine calf skin, and a stock of ladies' card cases of the same material. Go and get one for a Christmas present.

SIGNOR CARBO, Topaz, Amethyst, and other styles fine gold rings, at Haslett & Kennedy's, 79 Smithfield street.

THE wonderful songster is still on exhibition at Dunseath's, 76 Fifth avenue. Call and hear it sing, and examine the fine stock of jewelry, silver ware, watches, &c.

SOUPS of all kinds are much improved by the addition of a dessert spoonful of the famous Halford Table Sauce. Ask your grocer for this recipe you will no more go without the Halford than without the soup.

MR. VERNER, President of the Citizens' Passenger Railway, lost a valuable liver and white setter dog. He will reward the finder liberally at the car station, 177 Penn avenue, or at his residence, 319 Penn avenue.

THE great curiosity is the visit of Santa Claus, to be had at J. R. Weldin & Co.'s, 101 Wood street. Go and get a copy.

THE finest and most beautiful set of pearl jewelry we have ever seen was displayed in Dunseath's window yesterday. What a handsome Christmas present it would be.

THOSE beautiful diamonds and precious jewels on exhibition in Dunseath's window, 76 Fifth avenue, are doubtless intended for Christmas presents.

THE greatest variety of gold pens, pencils and other articles for Christmas presents are now on exhibition at the popular book store of J. R. Weldin & Co., 101 Wood street.

BOOKS in the richest and most elegant binding, splendid family Bibles, writing desks, library inkstands of unique patterns, and a host of other novelties, for holiday presents, at J. R. Weldin & Co.'s, 101 Wood street.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THREE sudden deaths yesterday.

CORONER WEST has his hands full.

The firemen worked nobly last night.

Gas lamps out in all directions last night.

Mayor Wilson is acting as Deputy Mayor.

The financier, Geo. H. Irwin, has been committed to jail for future disposition.

The church choirs are brushing up their Christmas music.

The Saw Mill run ferry boats were stopped by the ice yesterday.

ANOTHER dumb appeal for a morgue—no place to take the dead man at the lock-up last night.

Jewels, of Sandusky, Ohio, is now supposed not to be the wheat merchant, who swindled the Fort Pitt Bank.

A LETTER for Richard B. Morganroth, Forty-first street, Pittsburgh, is held for postage at the Washington, Pa., postoffice.

YESTERDAY a decree of divorce was granted in the case of Allie Borie against her husband, Charles Borie.

MISS MERKLIN will tell the people what they want at the Academy of Music to-night. Miss M.'s letter is bright as a button for those who have heard it.

W. C. SHAFFER charged James Burns with larceny yesterday, before Alderman Shore. The accused was arrested and committed to jail to answer.

THE troubles existing between the several Poor Boards of the county are effectually driving them toward consolidation.

MCKEE, MURPHY & Co. entered suit yesterday in the Prothonotary's office against D. P. Smith, the Wylie street merchant who didn't go to Ireland, for the recovery of money due on book account.

ON Christmas Day a collection will be taken up in all the Catholic churches of this diocese, for the support of St. Paul's Orphans' Asylum. The collection is ordered by the Bishop.

MESSRS. Hamilton Corder & Shephard, game dealers, will have a consignment of antelope, for the holidays, from the far West. This is a new article in this market.

MESSRS. Voight, Mahood & Co., of Liberty street, have received bills of lading for a consignment of 3,200 barrels of petroleum, to be shipped to Europe. This is all in saddles, and will fill a whole car. After this arrival deer meat ought to be cheap.

JAMES BURNS, a young man hailing from Mansfield, was committed to jail yesterday for the larceny of a trunk from the P. F. W. & C. depot. He was drinking, and says he had a trunk in the pile, but unfortunately took the wrong one.

THE goods belonging to the tobacco manufactory of the Messrs. Rinehart are being removed from the old warehouse on Wood to the new factory on Water street. The "unstamped" goods are being removed with the rest.

THE Homeopathic Hospital of this city dispenses medicine gratuitously to the afflicted of both sexes per day. The number of sick and injured which are treated here is also very large. Such an institution is deserving not only of private but public bounty.

THE Allegheny Cemetery was opened in September, 1855. Since then 15,930 bodies have been buried there. The grounds comprise two hundred and seventy acres, all in one body. The total receipts from sales of lots, etc., are $637,170; total expenditures for improvements, etc., $452,556; balance on hand $142,243—which is invested for the perpetual maintainance of the cemetery. The interments now average over seven hundred per year.

THE late Elisha W. Cook, whose death was reported recently, had a peculiarity quite uncommon to men. He had a great fancy for patchwork quilts, and designed and made them himself. He would cut the calico himself, work out the design, cut out the patches and arrange them ready for stitching together. Each Sheriff, from the time of Sheriff Graham down to the present, has been presented with a quilt of Mr. Cook's own design, and they were gifts which the Sheriffs' wives highly appreciated, not only because they were beautiful, but for the reason that they displayed the unique taste and fancy of a masculine mind.

CROMBY ROGERS, the young man charged with robbing the postoffice at Tyrone, had a hearing before Commissioner McCandless yesterday, at which three witnesses were examined, and the testimony went to show that the two mail keys, which the prisoner denied all knowledge of, were found upon him, or rather, were exhibited by him while drunk, and disowned by him when he became sober. The simple fact of his having in possession mail keys belonging to the United States is an offense under the act of Congress, and the Commissioner needed no further testimony to hold the prisoner for trial. He was committed in default of bail.

RODNEY MEARS and D. Martin, President and Secretary of the Merchants and Mechanics' Building and Loan Association, appeared before Alderman O'Donnell, yesterday and made an information against Jeremiah Cohen, charging him with embezzlement. The defendant was Treasurer of the Association, and it is alleged that he pocketed funds belonging to the organization amounting to $336 14. A warrant has been issued. The association has also brought a civil action against the bondsmen of Mr. Cohen to recover the amount defaulted.

Arrival of Steinway Cabinet Grand.

The *Cabinet* Grand Upright Piano of Steinway's make has arrived, and the public are invited to call and examine it. If ever a piano contained a lusicious, rich and poetic tone it is this *Cabinet* Upright Steinway. Such is the absolute purity of its music that the mechanical means employed, hammers, strings, etc., are entirely unsuspected and lost sight of. The expression *paragon* is fully merited and justified in the case of this charming Piano Forte, for it is vivid, vivid, vivid, will apply to this instrument if to anything. All the Steinway Uprights having been sold for Christmas gifts but the above, the Messrs. Kieber & Bro., 122 Wood street, the sole agents, beg of us to say that a couple of additional Upright Steinway's have been ordered on per express, and that they will arrive in the course of this day.

THE finest stock of ladies gold watches ever brought to this city is now to be seen at W. G. Dunseath's, 76 Fifth avenue. What very acceptable presents they would make.

FINE French and American Clocks at Haslett & Kennedy's, 79 Smithfield street.

SCHULTZ may agitate, Trumbull may make speech on speech, and Sumner offer resolution after resolution, all looking to reform in the civil service, but it will be no fall, unless it first becomes a principle of our policy that no man shall hold office under our government unless he drinks nothing but Piel, Dannals & Co.'s bottled ales and porter.

☞ *Advertisements on this page under the several heads of* WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* THIRTY CENTS.

WANTED.

WANTED—PARTNER—$3,000 WILL buy an interest in an improvement recently secured in connection with the Iron Business, and now in successful operation in this city. It has shown 50 per cent. saving, is needed in all Iron Mills, and promises quick sales with large profits. Balance of interest is held by two well known parties in the Iron Business. For particulars address M., Box 3, Commercial Office.

WANTED—SALESMAN—A PHILADELPHIA house, in the wholesale Grocery business, is desirous of making an engagement with a first class Traveling Salesman having an established trade in Western Pennsylvania. Address, with particulars, A. B. C., this office.

WANTED—SALESMAN—IN AN OLD established and large Wholesale Grocery House, a first-class Salesman that has a heavy trade in Western Pennsylvania and Ohio. Address par ticulars, with references, Box 2,214, Philadelphia Postoffice. MWF

WANTED—MORTGAGES—IN LARGE or small amounts, at current rates of interest, on City or Country Property.
THOS. K. PETTY, 179 Smithfield st. MWF

WANTED—SALESMAN—IN A WHOLESALE Grocery House in Philadelphia, one who can command a good trade in Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio. Address, with reference, THOS. A. ROBINSON, Sixth and Market streets, Philadelphia.

WANTED—TO TRADE—A FINE PIANO, of a leading first-class make, nearly new—only used about two months, for a Gold or Silver Watch, with or without Chain. Will take the balance if agreeable. Address G. W., Box 242, Pittsburgh Postoffice.

WANTED—TO SELL—A MANUFACTURING Business paying largely. Price $3,000. Good reasons for disposing of it. Address H. H., this office.

WANTED—MINERS—25 COAL MINERS immediately. Inquire of P. L. GRIM, No. 6 Diamond alley, and 77 E. Ohio st., Allegheny.

WANTED—EXPERIENCED MAN—TO take charge of two Cupolas and one Air Furnace, at our Foundry, in New Castle, Lawrence county, Pa. Steady work guaranteed. New Castle Manufacturing Co., New Castle, Pa.
H. & T. D. CURRAN,
GEO. T. CARTER & Co., General Agents, 67 Fourth avenue.

FINEST stock of books in the city, at Gildenfenny & Hess', 45 Fifth avenue.

Misery.

One-half the misery and wretchedness of the present day may be justly attributed to a want of proper training in childhood. Parents would furnish their children with good and useful books and endeavor to cultivate in them a taste for wholesome reading, much of the profligacy would be avoided, and hundreds of the young men now on the high way to ruin might have been ornaments to society. Gildenfenny & Hess, No. 45 Fifth avenue, have a large stock of good and useful books, as well as a full line of goods for the holidays.

CHAIN and Band Bracelets at Haslett & Kennedy's, 79 Smithfield street.

WANTED—AGENTS—FOR CITY AND country. Men wanting Farm work, Gardening, Driving, &c. Employment Office, No. 4 Ninth st.

WANTED—EVERYBODY—ANNOYED with Rats or Mice to buy Sheffield's Vermin Exterminator. Prepared and sold by CHAS. SHEFFIELD & CO., Druggists, 172 Wylie avenue.

WANTED—SITUATIONS—FOR MILL Manager, Engineers, Rail, Bar and Steel Rollers, Puddlers, Heaters, Shearers and Melters. Address, from Workers' Labor Exchange, Room 2, Second National Bank Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.
C. A. BURROWS, Secretary.

LOST.

LOST—MUFF—ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON, on Fifth avenue, (probably at Sands & Betteman's), a Sable Fur Muff, somewhat worn. The finder will be suitably rewarded by leaving it at 84 Wylie street.

BOARDING.

BOARDING—FOR RENT, WITH Board, a comfortable Room with Gas and Fire, at 155 Second avenue.

BOARDING—A FURNISHED ROOM, with Board, at 188 Second avenue.

PERSONAL.

PERSONAL—MISS MINNIE, YOU CAN get Perfumery, Hair Oil, &c., from CHAS. ABEL & CO.'S, Perfumers, 172 Wylie avenue.

PERSONAL—WANTED, THE ADDRESS of John Snider, a Tailor. Address W. H. RUSSELL, Cadiz, Ohio.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—SIX PRESSES, A FULL set of Cases and Stands, all nearly new. Also, Roller, Fixtures and Good-Will of a first-class paying Job Printing Office, in Cleveland, Ohio. Will be sold cheap for cash. Satisfactory reasons given for selling. Apply at once to A. H. RIDDLE & CO., Cleveland, O.

FOR SALE—AN ELEGANT NEW BRICK House of 10 Rooms, on Main street, Seventeenth ward, near Arsenal Grounds, with lot 35 by 110 feet. For full particulars call on H. B. DAVIS, at Tradesmen's Bank, corner Second and Wood.

FOR SALE—THE BUILDING MATERIAL of a Brick House, 20 by 36 feet, with Shingle roof, 15 by 110 feet deep. May be removed immediately. Apply to H. JACKSON, Office of Anchor Cotton Mills, Allegheny City.

FOR SALE—ONE SECOND-HAND Engine and Boiler; Engine 7 by 20 inches, Boiler 32 inches by 16 feet. Also one Planer, 20 by 24 inches by 14 feet. M. B COCHRAN, 143 Liberty st.

FOR SALE—FAMILY HORSE—NOT afraid of cars or anything; sound and kind. Apply at CHARLES A PEEBLES, corner Sandusky and Church avenue, Allegheny.

FOR SALE—FARM—A VALUABLE Farm of 96½ Acres, 1 1/2 Perches, all underlaid with Coal, in Upper St. Clair township, Allegheny county, Pa., late the property of Neely McCausland, adjoining lands of Maj. Gen. Mellon, Jr., W. Leonard, S. Collins and others, about ten miles from the city. Will be sold in one or more parcels to suit purchasers. Title indisputable and terms of sale easy. For further inquire of J. W. F. WHITE, 106 Fourth ave, Pittsburgh.

FOR SALE—BELTING AND HOSE—Rubber and Gutta Percha Belting, Lace Leather, Lacing and Hose, as low as any other House, and warranted. HARTLEY, McKEE & CO., 54 Smithfield street.

FOR SALE—ENGINES AND BOILERS—New and Second-hand, of all sizes. Stationary and Locomotive, 2 to 60 horse-power. Apply to or address JAMES HILL & CO., corner Marion avenue and P. Ft. W. & C. R. R., Allegheny.

LOST OR STOLEN.

LOST OR STOLEN—SETTER DOG—ON Wednesday morning, December 20th, a black and tan Setter Dog, about one year old. Had plain, leather collar on. A liberal reward will be paid for his return to the subscriber, at MILAN, near Bellevue station on the Allegheny, or City Four Mills, Pittsburgh. tf

BUSINESS CHANCES.

PARTIES WITH CAPITAL WISHING to engage in one of the best paying and most rapid Manufacturing Businesses of the country, (the manufacture of which is known to those who have heard it), address D. M. HITCHCOCK, at No. 25 South Main street, St. Louis, Mo. FTuS

FOR SALE—A HARDWARE STORE, with full assortment and complete Store Fixtures. Inquire for location at this office.

FOR RENT.

152—FOR RENT—DESIRABLE Residence, with modern improvements, No. 152 Penn street. Inquire on the premises.

59—FOR RENT—TWO LARGE WELL lighted Rooms, with easy access, just now Western Savings Bank, particularly desirable for Insurance Agency. Possession given 1st April. Inquire Western Savings Bank, No. 59 Fourth avenue.

FOR RENT—FOUNDRY AND BLAST—Well adapted for Stoves, Hollow-ware and Castings. Apply to MURRAY, MOORE & CO., Portsmouth, Ohio.

58—FOR RENT—WILKINS HALL—Suits of Rooms, Hall and Lease for a term of years. Possession given first of January, 1872. For terms inquire of ROBT. H. HARTLEY, No. 58 Smithfield street.

169—FOR RENT—WAREHOUSE—That large, substantial Four-story Brick Warehouse, No. 167 Second avenue; convenient to the Connellsville Railroad; suitable for manufacturing purposes. Apply to FERGUSON & CO., Carson and Tenth streets, Birmingham.

DIVIDENDS.

ARSENAL BANK—DIVIDEND NOTICE—The Directors of this Arsenal Bank have this day declared a Dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the Capital Stock, payable to Stockholders at the Banking House, corner of Butler and Forty-third streets, Seventeenth ward, on and after January 1, 1872, free of tax.
JOHN W. RIDDELL, President.
C. L. STRAUB, Cashier.
Pittsburgh, December 16, 1871.

PEOPLE'S SAVINGS BANK—The Directors of this Bank have this day declared a Dividend of FIVE PER CENT. for the ensuing year, payable on and after January 2, 1872.
J. YOUNG, Cashier.
Allegheny, December 18, 1871.

NOTICES.

MONONGAHELA NAVIGATION COMPANY—There will be a Meeting of the Stockholders of the Monongahela Navigation Company, on TUESDAY, the 2d day of January, 1872, at 10 o'clock P. M., at the office of the Company, No. 94 Diamond street, Pittsburgh, for the purpose of Electing Officers and Managers for the ensuing year and other business. The polls will be closed at 4 o'clock P. M.
WM. BAKEWELL, Secretary.

CITY BANK OF PITTSBURGH—An Election for Directors of this Bank, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 9th, 1872, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 2 P. M.
J. W. TAYLOR, Cashier.
Pittsburgh, Pa., December 18, 1871.

NATION'S BANK FOR SAVINGS—The Annual Meeting of Stockholders for the purpose of electing a Board of Nine Directors, will be held at the Bank, No. 51 North Diamond, Allegheny, on MONDAY, January 8th, 1872, between the hours of 1 and 4 P. M.
E. M. JENKINS, Secretary.

GERMAN NATIONAL BANK—ELECTION—The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 9th, 1872, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M.
JOS. LAURENT, Cashier.
Pittsburgh, December 18, 1871.

FARMERS' DEPOSIT NATIONAL BANK—The annual election for

The Daily Commercial.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1871.

THE full text of the new Steamboat Bill is printed herewith. To a large class of our readers it will prove reading of special interest.

THE Philadelphia *North American* raises the question, Can Pennsylvania overcome the gap between her and New York in population and representation in the next ten years? No doubt of it, if we go to work in the right way. The Legislature is the organ of the State should do all in its power for local development by encouraging the construction of railroads. The next ten years is to witness a struggle for preponderance in the possession of power and wealth never before seen in our country. Pennsylvania is not equalled by any State for natural riches. Her minerals are practically inexhaustible, and the basis of wealth and population, with proper encouragement from Congress and the Legislature, will give us the victory in the race going on between States. Improvement and development should be the watchword of our people and the press.

CALLENDER, the unworthy national bank examiner in New York, was formerly connected with the Monument bank in Charlestown. He left under circumstances that did not make the directors ask for his return. Afterwards he held a captaincy in the Forty-seventh regiment, M. V. M. Some of his transactions in this connection were far from creditable. Yet, he was a pet of Secretary McCulloch, and of late has been in favor in some quarters in State street.—*Boston Transcript.*

The scrutiny to which applicants will hereafter be subjected under Gen. GRANT's new civil service system, would have kept the scamp out of office. No doubt there are others no better than he is in office. With the new system rigidly enforced the number cannot increase, and as they drop out honest men will take their places. These things, unfortunately, are true, notwithstanding Mr. MORTON's declaration that ours is the best civil service in existence. The Senator had better recast the expression and go in for supporting Gen. Grant in the work of reformation. If the Senator is right, then Gen. GRANT has blundered badly in bringing out his plan of reform. But who believes it?

GEN. GRANT's civil service plan is attracting profound attention all over the country—not as a recommendation, but as something actual, like the law that has been passed and signed, and will go into operation within ten days. It is a thing certain, depending on nothing but the President's will, the strength of which no one will question. If it is an extraordinary exercise of power conferred upon the President by Congress, no one will pretend that it is otherwise than for the country's good. If it was not expected, all the greater is the credit due to the President for so bold a stroke for the correction of evils which all admitted and yet few scarcely knew how to treat. General GRANT cannot be accused of pandering to clique, class or party, for the reform. Excepting as the good action will redound to the credit of the Republican party, is in the interest none of these influences, but of the people solely. That which with many was a sentiment has become a positive spendid reality by the firmness and patriotism of General GRANT.

THERE is a considerable flutter among the Connecticut lobby politicians, just now, the papers in that State being engaged in publishing the details of the amounts paid for "legislative influence" by the cities of Hartford and New Haven in their strife over the bill to make the former city the sole capital of the State. The names and figures show that several disinterested patriots who lent their influence to New Haven the first year, were induced by a larger consideration to favor Hartford during the second, and vice versa. The lobbyists who figure in this roll of dishonor are about equally divided between Republicans and Democrats; and, to their honor be it said, the Smalley boss of both parties are rasping the guilty persons with equal vigor and severity. The work of reform inaugurated at Washington and New York is gradually spreading to every State and city in the country. The Republican party has firmly made up its mind not to look with the slightest degree of allowance on dishonesty or corruption. Everywhere it is bringing wrong doers who have cloaked themselves in its livery, to grief.

THE New York *Sun*, which for months past has boiled over with denunciation and abuse of the administration for its pacific Cuban policy, now—in view of the probable adoption of a more vigorous line of conduct on the part of the Government with reference to Spain—complains, through its Washington correspondent, that in order to maintain its influence over the people, the Republican party is likely to attempt to precipitate the United States into hostilities with that country about Cuba; that the matter has already been discussed in the hearings upon the next Presidential campaign, that "if the GRANT managers can thereby win they are ready to plunge the country into another war," and that it remains to be seen whether, "in opposition to all their private feelings, their instincts of right and their convictions of duty," the people will permit such a step to be taken. Will the *Sun*, which has a perfect right to oppose the administration on fair grounds and with legitimate weapons of warfare, be good enough to inform its quarter of a million of readers, whom its curious disquisitions on both sides of this matter cannot but confuse, what will satisfy it?

"THE GENERAL ORDER SYSTEM."

During the recent Senate debate frequent references were made to what is called the New York "General Order System." Of course the members of the Senate were themselves thoroughly acquainted with its origin, nature and operations; and hence, notwithstanding the repeated recurrences had to the matter, no details were given calculated to convey to the people of the country generally, any clear and definite idea of what the system really is, or what the character of the abuses alleged to have grown up during its existence.

About two years ago, under the Collectorship of Mr. GRINNELL, a "general order" was issued from the Custom House, directing that all goods discharged from ocean vessels, and not allowed directly to the importers, and the duties paid on them, should be placed in one of two designated warehouses for storage, instead of—as had formerly been the custom—being taken care of by any of the various transportation and warehouse companies which the importers might choose to select. This is what is termed the "general order" business, under whose operations, it is claimed, the importers of New York city suffer a number of annoyances, vexations and extortions which under the former mode had no existence; the storage charges, according to the statements of a number of the principal importers of the country, being heavier, the damages to goods greater, the facilities for obtaining them poorer, and the responsibility of the warehousemen much less, than under the original plan.

The proprietor of the two warehouses designated under the order referred to, is General GEORGE K. LEET, formerly an officer upon the staff of General GRANT; and his emoluments from that source are said to amount to a hundred thousand dollars a year. It has been intimated by opposition Senators that General LEET formerly was, are more or less interested in the profits of the business. It is also claimed that all parties legitimately concerned—the Government, the steamship lines, and the importers—would be alike benefited by a return to the old system; the present, it is charged, being nothing more nor less than an improper levy of toll upon the commerce of the country.

A full and searching investigation of the whole system, its workings, and the evils alleged to be connected with it, has been ordered by the Senate, and will be entered upon at once. If there have been abuses they will be exposed; and if General LEET or any other persons have, as is so freely intimated, been guilty of levying blackmail upon the importers and merchants of the country, it may be set down as certain that President GRANT, who, there is every reason to suppose, desires that the inquisition shall be as thorough and exhaustive as possible, will put a summary stop to the abuse, as well as a sudden extinguisher upon all connected with it.

A butcher in New York was committed for trial by a police justice on Tuesday last, on a charge of annoying the congregation of a Jewish tabernacle. His offense consisted of hanging pigs before his store, which is near by the church.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Los Angeles county, California, will yield this year 1,250,000 gallons of wine and 50,000 gallons of brandy, which is a decided increase over the vintage of last year. The estimated cost of making wine is computed at fifteen cents per gallon, the manufacturers generally finding a ready market for their wines at from twenty to thirty cents per gallon.

The Orleans Princes, Duc D'Aumale and Prince de Joinville, have taken their seats as the representatives, respectively, of the departments of the Oise and Haute Marne. These nobles having come home in Paris for some time past, in a manner which exhibits nothing beyond the intense feeling of gratification which they experience in finding themselves once more on the soil of France. This impression is above all conspicuous in the countenance of the Prince de Joinville, who, from being somewhat of a moody man in England (where he seemed to have been impregnated with the spleen of the climate and of the British character), has become juvenile again almost, under the influence of his native air.

The French Minister of Finance, Pouyer Quertier, has found out an easy way of paying the debt of France to Prussia. In a speech delivered recently at the wedding feast of his daughter, when 1,200 of his workmen were present, he said that every hour's work in the whole country represented a milliard a year, and therefore the whole five milliards due to Prussia might be paid off in five years by only an hour's extra work.

Boston is becoming indeed liberalized. Her citizens now actually propose to name a new school house in honor of an esteemed actress. The Bostonians are justly proud of Charlotte Cushman, having built a school house upon the identical spot where, July 23, A. D. 1816, the tragic lady was born, the fare ordained that the school there to be kept shall be free and known as "the Cushman School." Fifty years ago the people of this same city seriously proposed to crush out forever all theatrical representations.

Dr. Foster, the geologist, has written a letter in which he gives many interesting details concerning the newly discovered coal of Indiana. The variety known as "block coal," after being submitted to both theoretical and practical tests, has been found to have most of the properties of pure charcoal in the manufacture of iron and steel, and that of the very few coals that can be introduced into the Bessemer furnace without preliminary coking. The value of such a mineral deposit in developing the industrial interests of Indiana needs no demonstration other than is afforded by the rapid increase in number of the iron foundries, rolling-mills, and manufactures of that State.

The Rochester *Democrat* says that by contrivance of the engineer, Seneca Doble, of steam fire engine No. 2, of that city, a saving of about three minutes is accomplished in the hitching of the horses to the engine and hose-cart in case of a fire-alarm. A cord from the sleeping-room leads down into the stable, and is attached by a spring to a movable door in front of the stall, the hay-rack and oat-bin being at the side. In case of a fire-alarm the cord is pulled, the stall-door opens, and the horses rush out and take their place, the engine horses on each side of the pole, and the hose-cart horse in his position. It is a race between the men and these intelligent animals to see who can get to the post of duty first. The horses generally win.

The Boston ball in honor of the Grand Duke was a costly affair. The total expense was $14,678 58; the sale of tickets yielded $8,350; proceeds of promenade concert $666 27, leaving a deficiency of $6,662 31. The guarantee fund was $11,600, and the Committee have assessed the subscribers fifty per cent. of their subscriptions.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Jean Lander has gone to Lynn, Mass., to break up housekeeping there, and will hereafter be a resident of the city of Washington, where she has purchased a property on Capitol Hill.

The statement that Miss Bertha Geroit, daughter of Baron Geroit, late Minister from Prussia, is to enter a convent in Germany is incorrect. Miss Geroit has entered a convent in Washington as a postulant, but her friends hope that before the term of her probation is over she will quit the convent life and will no longer desire to take the veil.

Matilda Heron is recovering her mental equilibrium. She appears upon the stage every night, and shows no more symptoms of insanity than a steamer as the local inspectors shall designate in writing. steamer of average size. Gen. Sickles has just received permission to the owner of any steam vessel for the use of any investigating or scientific gentleman of reputation or other mineral oils or substances in the production of motive power, to test the same, subject to such rules and regulations concerning the application and use of the same as may be established by the Secretary, and may be granted unless upon the certificate of the Inspector of Steamboats for the district in which the application is offered, and other satisfactory proof that the use of the same is not safe. Any vessel propelled in whole or in part by steam, until he shall have satisfactory evidence that such permission will not be used for any purpose of this act, and if any such vessel shall be navigated without compliance with the terms of this act and known as "the Sickles School." Fifty years ago the people of this same city seriously proposed to crush out forever all theatrical representations.

Dr. Foster, the geologist, has written a letter in which he gives many interesting details concerning the newly discovered coal of Indiana. The variety known as "block coal," after being submitted to both theoretical and practical tests, has been found to have most of the properties of pure charcoal in the manufacture of iron and steel, and that of the very few coals that can be introduced into the Bessemer furnace without preliminary coking. The value of such a mineral deposit in developing the industrial interests of Indiana needs no demonstration other than is afforded by the rapid increase in number of the iron foundries, rolling-mills, and manufactures of that State.

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STATE POLITICS.

A meeting of the Republicans of Carbon county was held at Mauch Chunk last week, at which a resolution was adopted declaring General William Lilly the choice for the Republican candidate for Governor.

Hon. G. V. Lawrence, Chairman of the Republican committee of Washington county, has called a convention to meet on Monday evening, January 8, to appoint delegates to the Republican State Convention.

THE FOURTH National Bank of Philadelphia, situated on Arch street, near Eighth, on Tuesday morning, suspended for the second time in its history. Rumors of financial irregularities in the management of the bank having been afloat. Hiland R. Hulburd, the Comptroller of the Currency, and a Committee of the Board of Bank Presidents, on Monday made an investigation into its condition. The result showed that the bank was in no condition to continue business, and that a very reckless system had prevailed in keeping the accounts. As a consequence, suspension was effected. There will be no loss to those who hold the circulating notes of the bank, as they are secured by United States bonds. Although the bank has for some time been considered in a doubtful condition, its stock has been selling above par. The City Treasurer states that he has no account whatever with the bank, either public or private, and as far as the treasury is concerned the city will lose nothing. It is understood that the Tax Receiver had about $20,000 on deposit in the bank. About a week ago, Mr. Beatty and Mr. Hill, Delinquent Tax Collectors, drew out together over $800,000.

SINCE it is pretty nearly certain that nothing except competition will ever induce the present directors of cable communication with foreign countries to lower their rates of toll, the more of them the have the better. The bill introduced into the House a day or two since, providing for the incorporation of a company to lay a submarine cable across the Atlantic by way of the Bermudas and Azores, will probably, if it becomes a law, help to bring about this result. The same company also proposes to lay a telegraphic cable from our Pacific coast to China and Japan; which would bring us into direct and instant communication with the East, instead of compelling us to send our messages by the long and expensive route of the Atlantic and Europe. In view of the rapid and enormous increase of our commerce with the Orient such a line to our merchants is at once apparent, while its importance to the government would be by no means small. The capital for both these undertakings is said to be ready for investment as soon as the necessary privileges shall have been granted by Congress.

THE Democrats of Georgia are putting themselves in a very unenviable attitude. The members of the Legislature have voted themselves seven dollars per day, and five cents per mile each for the time they travel to and from the capitol. They have wasted their time in political juggling, until they have failed, as they claim, to complete their necessary business within the forty days allowed by the Constitution, and they are now holding on at the capitol, drawing their seven dollars per day, in defiance of the Constitution and laws of the State, when they cannot point to one important measure that should detain them a single hour, and they have, in an unconstitutional and revolutionary manner, caused an election to be held for a Governor to fill out the unexpired term of Governor Bullock. The election occurred on Monday, and the Republican party did not vote, and it is feared that the perverse and palpable disregard of constitutional provision and authority will cause the whole procedure of the reactionists has involved, may compel the national government again to intervene in the affairs of that distracted State.

SOME days ago we mentioned that Gen. Hawley said, in a lecture recently delivered in New York, that it was within his own knowledge that a member of the present United States Senate was in receipt of seventy-five thousand dollars for his position. He was also reported as stating, on the same occasion, that seventy per cent. of the Pennsylvania Legislature was "rotten," and that one railroad bill, passed at the last session of the Legislature, cost seven hundred thousand dollars. His attention having been called to these various statements, he corrects them by observing, in a late number of his paper, the Hartford *Courant*, that what he did say was in reference to the Senatorship was, that he had been so informed by what he considered reliable authority; and that what he said respecting the Pennsylvania Legislature was made of a certain State not named. His explanation concerning the alleged cost of the railroad bill in question is that it was currently reported that the Pennsylvania tonnage tax was repealed a number of years ago at such an expense.

A CERTAIN journal, which has been especially determined in its opposition to the postal telegraph measure, on the grounds that the service is conducted by private corporations with more energy, accuracy and economy than could be hoped for if it were placed under government control, has now signified its willingness to the efforts now being made by the manufacturers of envelopes "to get rid of the damaging competition of the government contract." Well, gentlemen, we suppose that they demand that the Postoffice Department shall either go out of the business, or charge a profit of ten per cent. Comment upon the utter inconsistency of these attitudes is quite unnecessary. Such a journal, utterly lacking in honesty and incompetent to the management of one business, is censured for the injury which its reduced rates in the conduct of another are said to have inflicted on its competitors. It needs only to bring reconciling faculty to harmonize these positions.

THE thirty-fourth annual report of the Massachusetts Lunatic Hospital shows the whole number of patients under treatment Oct. 1, 1871, to be 200 males and 223 females; whole number admitted during the year 254 males and 216 females; whole number discharged 291 males and 206 females; whole number under treatment 472 males and 427 females; recovered 106 males and 103 females; improved 7 males and 1 female; died 41 males and 29 females. The statistics show that nearly all the patients are persons who have been engaged in mechanical employments. Of farmers there were 19, laborers 69, machinists 12, carpenters 13, shoemakers 20, traders 10, clerks 10. Not a single author, clergyman, editor or lawyer and but one physician was admitted.

A NEW guillotine has lately been constructed by M. Heinrich, Executioner General of Paris. M. Heinrich, who is a very humane man, though it was cruel to force criminals to go some distance from their cells, and then climb a flight of stairs to be killed, and his new machine is so arranged that there is no platform to ascend. The condemned no sooner emerges from the prison than he is thrown down on the planks, secured, and his neck thrust under the knife, which is heavier than before. But the first application of the new machine was not very successful, as the victim after being tossed under the knife, contrived to get his head loose, and to scream aloud until he was secured, and the knife fell.

THE NEW STEAMBOAT BILL.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DECEMBER 18, 1871.

Read Twice, Referred to the Committee on Commerce, and Ordered to be Printed.

NOTE.—Sections marked by an asterisk (*) have not been Amended, but are the same as in the act of February 28, 1871.

Mr. Negley, on leave, introduced the following bill:

A bill to amend an act entitled "an act to provide for the better security of life on steam-vessels propelled in whole or in part by steam, and for other purposes," approved February 28, 1871:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That sections one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, eleven, sixteen, twenty, twenty-three, twenty-four, twenty-six, twenty-seven, thirty-one, thirty-five, thirty-six, thirty-seven, forty-seven, forty-eight, forty-nine, fifty-two, fifty-three, fifty-four, fifty-five, fifty-nine, sixty-three, sixty-four, sixty-five, sixty-six, sixty-eight and seventy of the act entitled "An act to provide for the better security of life on steam vessels propelled in whole or in part by steam, and for other purposes," approved February 28, 1871, and that all are hereby amended so as to read as follows: That no license, engineer, or enrollment shall be granted, or other papers issued, by any collector or other chief officer of the customs to any steam vessel propelled in whole or in part by steam, until he shall have satisfactory evidence that at least one person shall be employed on board of such steamer as a fireman for every fifty tons of her registered measurement, and if any such vessel shall be navigated without compliance with the terms of this act until such person shall be employed on board, and kept employed during the whole time such vessel is in motion, by the master, owner or agent of such steamer, and if any such vessel shall be navigated without compliance with the terms of this act, the master, owner or agent of such steamer shall be liable to a penalty of one hundred dollars for each offense; and no steamer shall be allowed to carry passengers unless she shall have in her service a full complement of officers and crew, sufficient at all times to manage the boats and the number of watchmen.

Provided, however, That nothing in this act shall be construed to require the employment of more than one engineer in charge of the engines and machinery of any steamer, except in the case of vessels carrying passengers, when a second engineer shall be employed, who shall be in charge of the engines during the night, and who shall be subject to the same rules and regulations as the engineer in charge by day.

That when any person shall apply to be licensed as an engineer, he shall be required to submit to a careful examination touching his character and his knowledge of the duties he will be required to perform, and if found worthy, upon full proof of his character and habits of life, and of his knowledge and experience in the duties of an engineer, he shall receive a license, which shall state his name, place of residence, and the name of the vessel in which he is employed, and shall be signed by the collector or other chief officer of the customs of the district, and countersigned by the inspectors of the district, and in case the said inspectors refuse to grant a license, they shall state their reason for such refusal in writing, signing the same, and such refusal shall continue in force for one year from the date thereof, unless sooner revoked by the inspectors who signed the same; and if such steamer shall not have been actually changed from the district in which she was enrolled, it shall be necessary to procure a license in such district.

That upon the application of any master or owner of a steam vessel employed in the carriage of passengers, for a license for such vessel, the inspectors shall examine such vessel, and if they find that she is provided with a sufficient number of suitable and proper lifeboats and sheathed therewith; or if the vessel has one or more metallic boats, sufficient in number and capacity, when added to the boats required by this act, placed and kept as aforesaid, or if she carries a raft, or rafts, of sufficient size, safety, and capacity as hereinafter provided, and have machinery for steering, and the number of manageable yards: *Provided*, That both supervising and local inspectors shall be responsible for any action or responsibility in connection with the provisions of this act; and if any such license or shall be delayed in the execution of the duties hereof, or shall report the facts in writing to the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall cause immediate investigation into the truth of the complaint, and, if the delay is found to be unnecessary, shall remove the delinquent.

SEC. 2. That it shall be the duty of such supervising inspectors to see that the said several boards within their respective districts execute their duties faithfully and promptly, and, as far as possible, uniformly in all places. To follow out the provisions of this act, so that it may be the true intent and meaning thereof; and they shall, as far as practicable, harmonize differences and opinions which may exist in different local boards; and the said local boards shall conform to and execute such orders and directions of the supervising board of inspectors, except the same be manifestly unjust, or in violation of law, in which case the local board shall appeal to the Secretary of the Treasury, whose decision shall be final and binding upon both the supervising inspectors and the local boards.

That the said supervising inspectors shall also visit each steamer in their district when they deem it necessary, and at least once in every year, carefully inspect the hull of each steamer within their respective districts, in order to ascertain the condition of the same, and whether any defects have been developed since last inspection, and whether any alterations have been made which render additional precautions necessary for the safety of life; and if they find that she is provided with sufficient and proper lifeboats, rafts, and other appliances for the preservation of life, and the means of promptly securing the same in accordance with the provisions of this act; and if any such steamer or vessel shall be found to be unsafe, from imperfection in the hull, boilers, machinery, or other appurtenances, or any other cause, so as to endanger the lives of passengers, they shall forthwith report the same in writing to the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall cause immediate investigation into the truth of the complaint, and, if the defects are found to be unnecessary, shall remove the delinquent.

SEC. 3. That whenever a supervising inspector ascertains to his satisfaction that any master, mate, engineer, pilot, or owner of any such vessel fails to perform his duties according to the provisions of this act, he shall report in writing to the board in the district where the said vessel is registered or belongs; and, if need be, he shall also submitted to their inspection is of a structure suitable for the service in which she is to be employed, and suitable accommodations for passengers and crew, and that the same conform to the laws of the United States, and that the machinery, hull, and boilers are well made, of good and suitable material, and of sufficient strength for the service and the number of persons carried; and if they find that the vessel is provided with a sufficient number of lifeboats, rafts, life-preservers, floats, and other appliances required by this act, and that the same are in suitable condition, and that the machinery, hull, boilers, and other parts of the steamer are in such condition as to warrant the belief that she can be navigated with safety to the lives of passengers, they shall issue a certificate to that effect, stating the name of the steamer, the name and residence of her owners, the name of her master, and the number of persons she is authorized to carry, and the route she is to run, and shall furnish a copy of the same to the collector of the district, who shall record the same in a book to be kept for that purpose, and shall post a copy of the certificate in a conspicuous place in the cabin of such steamer, and shall not have been removed by the master or owner of the vessel therein named, and shall be signed by the inspectors who issued the same.

SEC. 12. That upon the application of any master or owner of any steam vessel employed in the carriage of passengers, for a license for such vessel, the inspectors shall examine such vessel, and if they find that she is provided with a sufficient number of suitable and proper lifeboats and sheathed therewith; or if the vessel has one or more metallic boats, sufficient in number and capacity, when added to the boats required by this act, placed and kept as aforesaid, or if she carries a raft, or rafts, of sufficient size, safety, and capacity as hereinafter provided, and have machinery for steering, and the number of manageable yards: *Provided*, That both supervising and local inspectors shall be responsible for any action or responsibility in connection with the provisions of this act; and if any such license or shall be delayed in the execution of the duties hereof, or shall report the facts in writing to the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall cause immediate investigation into the truth of the complaint, and, if the delay is found to be unnecessary, shall remove the delinquent.

SEC. 13. That whenever a supervising inspector ascertains to his satisfaction that any master, mate, engineer, pilot, or owner of any such vessel fails to perform his duties according to the provisions of this act, he shall report in writing to the board in the district where the said vessel is inspected or belongs; and, if need be, he shall also submitted to their inspection is of a structure suitable for the service in which she is to be employed, and suitable accommodations for passengers and crew, and that the same conform to the laws of the United States, and that the machinery, hull, and boilers are well made, of good and suitable material, and of sufficient strength for the service and the number of persons carried; and if they find that she is provided with a sufficient number of lifeboats, rafts, life-preservers, floats, and other appliances required by this act, and that the same are in suitable condition, and that the machinery, hull, boilers, and other parts of the steamer are in such condition as to warrant the belief that she can be navigated with safety to the lives of passengers, they shall issue a certificate to that effect, stating the name of the steamer, the name and residence of her owners, the name of her master, and the number of persons she is authorized to carry, and the route she is to run, and shall furnish a copy of the same to the collector of the district, who shall record the same in a book to be kept for that purpose, and shall post a copy of the certificate in a conspicuous place in the cabin of such steamer, and shall not have been removed by the master or owner of the vessel therein named, and shall be signed by the inspectors who issued the same.

SEC. 14. That it shall be the duty of the board of supervising inspectors, at their meetings, to establish such rules and regulations as may be necessary to make known in a proper manner to local ship-masters the names of all persons found guilty by the provisions of this act, the names of all persons from whom licenses have been withheld, and the names and ports to which licenses have been suspended or revoked; and also such other matters as may be ordered under the provisions of this act, or as may be required by the Secretary of the Treasury, all of which shall be duly proved by the affidavit of the inspectors, or some one of them, and recorded in a book to be kept for that purpose by the clerk of the board.

SEC. 15. That every steamer carrying passengers on the main deck shall be provided with permanent stairways and other sufficient means of communication to said passengers, for their escape to the upper deck, in case of the vessel taking fire, or other accident, and in such a way as to prevent the passage of freight upon such deck, no freight shall be stowed in such a manner as to obstruct the said means of escape, nor shall any deck above there may be passengers.

That all vessels of three hundred tons burden and upwards, there shall be provided, two of the largest and strongest metallic lifeboats, one metallic life-boat, to be placed on the starboard side, and one on the larboard side, sufficiently large to hold thirty of the capt.in, steersman, and crew; and shall be the duty of the captain, master or clerk of such vessel to see to it that such passengers when they may occupy; nor shall freight be stowed in such a manner as to obstruct or hinder the passage to the lifeboats, and in case of fire or danger shall immediately cause the yawl boat to be lowered, manned, and provisioned, and shall see that the passengers are transferred to her in safety, and shall not leave the vessel while any passengers remain on board, unless forced by the flames.

SEC. 16. That every steamer carrying passengers shall be provided with wire-tiller ropes, or iron-rods or chains, from the tiller to the wheel, and shall have a relieving tackle; and there shall be provided on all steamers, except as herein provided, two fire-engines, of a capacity equal to one hundred tons each, one of such pumps may be dispensed with, and in such fire-pumps may be dispensed with, and in such fire-pumps shall be attached hose sufficient in length to reach from the pilot-house, or other place where the engineer can be found, to any part of the vessel, so as to be at all times under the control of the engineer, and there shall be a fire-pump shall be placed below the lower deck of any such vessel, for the purpose of pumping out the hold. That in addition to said fire-engines, two of such lifeboats; and every such vessel of more than one thousand tons burden, shall be provided with not less than four lifeboats; and every such vessel of more than two thousand tons, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than three thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than four thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than five thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and the length of each of such boats shall be measured on the outside of the boat, and at least fifty per cent. in addition to all steamers, except as herein provided, shall carry one metallic life-boat, to be placed on the starboard side, sufficiently large to hold thirty of the captain, steersman, and crew, and shall be the duty of the captain, master or clerk of such vessel to see to it that such passengers when they may occupy; nor shall freight be stowed in such a manner as to obstruct or hinder the passage to the lifeboats, and in case of fire or danger shall immediately cause the yawl boat to be lowered, manned, and provisioned, and shall see that the passengers are transferred to her in safety, and shall not leave the vessel while any passengers remain on board, unless forced by the flames.

SEC. 17. That every steamer carrying passengers shall be provided with wire-tiller ropes, or iron-rods or chains, from the tiller to the wheel, and shall have a relieving tackle; and there shall be provided on all steamers, except as herein provided, two fire-engines, of a capacity equal to one hundred tons each, one of such pumps may be dispensed with, and in such fire-pumps shall be attached hose sufficient in length to reach from the pilot-house, or other place where the engineer can be found, to any part of the vessel, so as to be at all times under the control of the engineer, and there shall be a fire-pump shall be placed below the lower deck of any such vessel, for the purpose of pumping out the hold. That in addition to said fire-engines, two of such lifeboats; and every such vessel of more than one thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have four boats, two of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than two thousand tons, and not exceeding three thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than three thousand tons, and not exceeding four thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than four thousand tons, and not exceeding five thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than five thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and the length of each of such boats shall be measured on the outside of the boat, and at least fifty per cent. in addition to all steamers, except as herein provided, shall carry one metallic life-boat, to be placed on the starboard side, sufficiently large to hold thirty of the captain, steersman, and crew, and shall be the duty of the captain, master or clerk of such vessel to see to it that such passengers when they may occupy; nor shall freight be stowed in such a manner as to obstruct or hinder the passage to the lifeboats, and in case of fire or danger shall immediately cause the yawl boat to be lowered, manned, and provisioned, and shall see that the passengers are transferred to her in safety, and shall not leave the vessel while any passengers remain on board, unless forced by the flames.

SEC. 18. That every steamer carrying passengers shall be provided with wire-tiller ropes, or iron-rods or chains, from the tiller to the wheel, and shall have a relieving tackle; and there shall be provided on all steamers, except as herein provided, two fire-engines, of a capacity equal to one hundred tons each, one of such pumps may be dispensed with, and in such fire-pumps shall be attached hose sufficient in length to reach from the pilot-house, or other place where the engineer can be found, to any part of the vessel, so as to be at all times under the control of the engineer, and there shall be a fire-pump shall be placed below the lower deck of any such vessel, for the purpose of pumping out the hold. That in addition to said fire-engines, two of such lifeboats; and every such vessel of more than one thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have four boats, two of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than two thousand tons, and not exceeding three thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than three thousand tons, and not exceeding four thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than four thousand tons, and not exceeding five thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than five thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and the length of each of such boats shall be measured on the outside of the boat, and at least fifty per cent. in addition to all steamers, except as herein provided, shall carry one metallic life-boat, to be placed on the starboard side, sufficiently large to hold thirty of the captain, steersman, and crew, and shall be the duty of the captain, master or clerk of such vessel to see to it that such passengers when they may occupy; nor shall freight be stowed in such a manner as to obstruct or hinder the passage to the lifeboats, and in case of fire or danger shall immediately cause the yawl boat to be lowered, manned, and provisioned, and shall see that the passengers are transferred to her in safety, and shall not leave the vessel while any passengers remain on board, unless forced by the flames.

SEC. 19. That every steamer carrying passengers shall be provided with wire-tiller ropes, or iron-rods or chains, from the tiller to the wheel, and shall have a relieving tackle; and there shall be provided on all steamers, except as herein provided, two fire-engines, of a capacity equal to one hundred tons each, one of such pumps may be dispensed with, and in such fire-pumps shall be attached hose sufficient in length to reach from the pilot-house, or other place where the engineer can be found, to any part of the vessel, so as to be at all times under the control of the engineer, and there shall be a fire-pump shall be placed below the lower deck of any such vessel, for the purpose of pumping out the hold. That in addition to said fire-engines, two of such lifeboats; and every such vessel of more than one thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have four boats, two of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than two thousand tons, and not exceeding three thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than three thousand tons, and not exceeding four thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than four thousand tons, and not exceeding five thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than five thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and the length of each of such boats shall be measured on the outside of the boat, and at least fifty per cent. in addition to all steamers, except as herein provided, shall carry one metallic life-boat, to be placed on the starboard side, sufficiently large to hold thirty of the captain, steersman, and crew, and shall be the duty of the captain, master or clerk of such vessel to see to it that such passengers when they may occupy; nor shall freight be stowed in such a manner as to obstruct or hinder the passage to the lifeboats, and in case of fire or danger shall immediately cause the yawl boat to be lowered, manned, and provisioned, and shall see that the passengers are transferred to her in safety, and shall not leave the vessel while any passengers remain on board, unless forced by the flames.

SEC. 20. That every steamer carrying passengers shall be provided with wire-tiller ropes, or iron-rods or chains, from the tiller to the wheel, and shall have a relieving tackle; and there shall be provided on all steamers, except as herein provided, two fire-engines, of a capacity equal to one hundred tons each, one of such pumps may be dispensed with, and in such fire-pumps shall be attached hose sufficient in length to reach from the pilot-house, or other place where the engineer can be found, to any part of the vessel, so as to be at all times under the control of the engineer, and there shall be a fire-pump shall be placed below the lower deck of any such vessel, for the purpose of pumping out the hold. That in addition to said fire-engines, two of such lifeboats; and every such vessel of more than one thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have four boats, two of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than two thousand tons, and not exceeding three thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than three thousand tons, and not exceeding four thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than four thousand tons, and not exceeding five thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and every such vessel of more than five thousand tons burden, shall, in addition to said working-boat, have six boats, three of which shall be metallic life-boats; and the length of each of such boats shall be measured on the outside of the boat, and at least fifty per cent. in addition to all steamers, except as herein provided, shall carry one metallic life-boat, to be placed on the starboard side, sufficiently large to hold thirty of the captain, steersman, and crew, and shall be the duty of the captain, master or clerk of such vessel to see to it that such passengers when they may occupy; nor shall freight be stowed in such a manner as to obstruct or hinder the passage to the lifeboats, and in case of fire or danger shall immediately cause the yawl boat to be lowered, manned, and provisioned, and shall see that the passengers are transferred to her in safety, and shall not leave the vessel while any passengers remain on board, unless forced by the flames.

SEC. 21. That every collector or other chief officer of the customs shall retain on file all original certificates of the inspectors granting licenses to steamers, and shall record the same in a book to be kept for that purpose, and shall furnish a copy of the same to any person applying therefor, and be liable to removal from office, fund to a penalty of one hundred dollars for each offense, to be sued for in an action of debt, one-half to the use of the informer and one-half to the use of the United States.

SEC. 22. That every collector or other chief officer of the customs shall retain on file all original certificates of the inspectors granting licenses to masters and mates, and shall record the same in a book to be kept for that purpose, and shall furnish a copy of the same to any person applying therefor, and be liable to removal from office, fund to a penalty of one hundred dollars for each offense, to be sued for in an action of debt, one-half to the use of the informer and one-half to the use of the United States.

SEC. 23. That every collector or other chief officer of the customs shall retain on file all original certificates of the inspectors granting licenses to pilots, and shall record the same in a book to be kept for that purpose, and shall furnish a copy of the same to any person applying therefor, and be liable to removal from office, fund to a penalty of one hundred dollars for each offense, to be sued for in an action of debt, one-half to the use of the informer and one-half to the use of the United States.

SEC. 24. That every collector or other chief officer of the customs shall retain on file all original certificates of the inspectors granting licenses to engineers, and shall record the same in a book to be kept for that purpose, and shall furnish a copy of the same to any person applying therefor, and be liable to removal from office, fund to a penalty of one hundred dollars for each offense, to be sued for in an action of debt, one-half to the use of the informer and one-half to the use of the United States.

SEC. 25. That every collector or other chief officer of the customs shall retain on file all original certificates of the inspectors granting licenses to masters and mates, and shall record the same in a book to be kept for that purpose, and shall furnish a copy of the same to any person applying therefor, and be liable to removal from office, fund to a penalty of one hundred dollars for each offense, to be sued for in an action of debt, one-half to the use

James T. Brady & Co

Corner Wood and Fourth Avenue,

BANKERS,

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

Government Securities,

GOLD, SILVER AND COUPONS.

ON MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

Money Loaned on Government Bonds at Lowest Market Rates.

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Commercial Banking Company,

ALLIANCE, OHIO.

The undersigned have formed a Copartnership under the above name to transact

A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS,

AT ALLIANCE, OHIO, and will give careful and prompt attention to all business entrusted to them.

Special attention will be given to Collections in ALLIANCE, CANTON, MASSILLON, SALEM, LISBON, CALUMBIANA, NEW LISBON, and all other points in the part of Ohio.

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IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

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WE OFFER FOR SALE THE FOLLOWING

DESIRABLE SECURITIES:

CITY OF PITTSBURGH WATER LOAN AND PENN AVENUE BONDS, bearing 7 Per Cent. Interest, at Par and Accrued Interest.

PITTSBURGH AND CONNELLSVILLE SIX PER CENT. BONDS, DUE IN 1887. First Mortgage on Turtle Creek Division, at 86 and Accrued Interest.

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

Corner Fourth Avenue and Smithfield Streets.

FINANCE AND TRADE

THURSDAY EVENING, December 21, 1871.

The general features which have characterized the local loan market for the past few weeks are not essentially changed, but it is thought that we are on the eve of a more favorable condition for borrowers, although it may not develop to any great extent until after the holidays are over. Rates for money loaned still rule high, except what the banks let out on customer paper, which is done at the usual bank interest—nine per cent. Private lenders can place all their idle means at much higher rates than that, and feel safe in the investment. There has been a good opportunity for parties having the means to pick up during this money pinch a great deal of good paper from the hands of parties who ordinarily get the same discounted by the banks, but of late could obtain but little help from them.

The offerings of local stocks were very light to-day. We hear of an advance in Columbia oil stock, which is attributed to the near approach of dividend time. We notice a sale of Allegheny 7-30 bonds at 91, and Central Transportation stock at 46¾. Allegheny city 4 per cent. bonds are quoted at 66, and Pittsburgh 3s at 75.

The low price of gold to-day has affected the price of Government bonds but very lightly. The market was steady throughout the different calls.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Close.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	117	117¼	117¾
U. S. Bonds of 1881	109¼	109¼	109¼
U. S. Bonds of 1864	109¼	109¼	109¼
U. S. Bonds of 1865	111	111¼	111¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	113¼	113¼	113¾
U. S. Bonds of 1867	115	115	115
U. S. Bonds of 1868	115	115	115
New 5s	108¾	108¾	108¾
10-40s	109	109	109
Gold	108¾	108¾	108¾

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	108¾
United States 6s of 1881	117¾
United States 5-20s of 1862	109¼
United States 5-20s of 1864	109¼
United States 5-20s of 1865	111¾
United States 10-40s	109
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	113¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	115
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	115
Union Pacific Railroad	79
Central Pacific Railroad	92
Currency Pacific	92

The New York *Tribune* remarks that the ordinary holiday dullness of the season appears to have fairly set in at the Stock Exchange, and there is a very diminished excitement in daily transactions. But while the volume of business sensibly decreased, there is no marked change in the temper on the street, and except that commission houses grumble at the stagnation of business, and the curbstone speculators express dissatisfaction at the monotonous tone of the market, there is almost an undivided confidence among the large holders of stock as heretofore. The sharp turn lately developed in the money market has been rather unexpected, perhaps; but this excites no apprehension and only occasions the temporary inconvenience, although it has no doubt given a check to speculative movements and suggested greater caution. The banks have been gradually contracting loans for some time, partly to enable them to meet dividend payments and city loans; but the tendency of the recent developments in a few of the small corporations has been to suggest conservative and prudential measures on the part of the stronger concerns. The amount of bank capital used in stock operations is, however, represented to be quite insignificant, the large banking houses being for the most part clear of the money required. This is no doubt mainly correct, large balances having naturally accumulated at all great money centers during the New York, and especially with houses acting as agents to foreign bankers. At such events, tight money markets, such as we experience occasionally, even as a basis of loans in convertible currency, have no very decided influence against the stock market; and these temporary visitations have no terrors such as in former times carried consternation into the ranks of holders of large lines of stock. They count now with a much confidence upon a brief duration of the money stringency, and hold on through the squall without hesitation and without fear, in point of fact, the only argument which has any force against the current of speculation for an advance is embraced in the specie resumption question, which suggests caution only as the premium on gold descends, and the valuation of coin and irredeemable paper approximates. If gold sells, for example, at a premium of nine per cent. instead of twelve, the chances of a return to the specie basis increases, and in the ratio of decline the specie standard will seem to be nearer at hand. No very unpleasant effects would be likely, however, to follow such a change in the present condition of the foreign money markets; but whenever the financial affairs of this country fully sympathize with the great money tides of the world a new condition of things will rule here, and the basis of our monetary system will be affected by the ebb and flow of currency which now do not appear except in the movements of gold.

—The following table, made up from telegrams received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo building, No. 80 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

December 21, 1871.	10:15 A.M.	11:15 A.M.	12:30 M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	4:00 P.M.
C. & N.	92¾	92¾	93¼	93¼	93	93¼
Do. Scrip	85	85½	86	86	86	86
Pacific	92¾	92¾	93¼	93¼	93¼	93¼
Reading	110	110	110	110	110	110
Michigan Central	116	116	116	116	116	116
Lake Shore	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾
Illinois Central						
Cleve. & Pitts	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾
C. & N. W.						
Do. pref	62¾	62¾	63¼	63¼	63¼	63¼
Rock Island	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾
St. Paul	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾
Do. pref	67¾	67¾	67¾	67¾	67¾	67¾
Tol. & Wabash	66¾	66¾	66¾	66¾	66¾	66¾
Ft. Wayne						
Ohio & Miss	42¾	42¾	43	43	43	43
Chic. & Alton	116		116½		117	
Do. pref						
Union Pacific	37¾	37¾	37¾	37¾	37¾	37¾
N. J. Central						
Canton						
W. U. Tel	68¼	68¼	68¼	68¼	68¼	68¼
Pacific Mail	50¾	50¾	50¾	50¾	50¾	50¾
Adams Ex	55½	55½	55½	55½	55½	55½
Wells-F. Ex	55½		56		56	
American Ex	45		45		45	
U. S. Ex	64		64		64	
Gold	108¾	108¾	108¾	108¾	108¾	108¾

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Pennsylvania Central	87¾
Philadelphia and Erie	30¾
Lehigh Navigation	61¾
Catawissa preferred	27½
Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad	44¾
Lehigh Valley Railroad	48¾
North Pennsylvania Railroad	60
Camden and Amboy Railroad	59
Schuylkill Navigation	13½
Reading	104¾

—JAMES W. KENNEDY, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), deals in Government, State and Municipal Bonds; Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Represented daily at the New York Stock Exchange, he buys and sells stocks on a margin for the same commission and on the same terms as the New York brokers. Money to loan in sums of $500 and upwards on collateral or well indorsed promissory notes, or on mortgages on city or Allegheny county real estate.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, December 21, 1871. }

REMARKS.—It will be no news to the general reader to say that the weather continues extremely cold and that the rivers are still blocked with ice. All this is already known, and the fact that the equally patent that trade is dull, if we except at the present time to make up the holiday markets. In this line there is much activity, and a brisk business is looked for during the coming week. Apples and Potatoes have advanced and are now held firmly at advanced figures. As a general thing prices are unchanged, hence we omit our usual extended quotations for to-day, reserving them to-morrow.

Buffalo Cattle Market.

BUFFALO, December 21.—Receipts 8 cars, making the supply 160 cars, being 76 cars less than last week. The market was firm, with not enough stock for the demand. Sales 137 Illinois steers of 963 to 1,153 lbs at $5 75@5 75; 30 Michigan, averaging 1,060 lbs at $5 50. Sheep and lambs—Receipts 1,400; market steady and firmer; all offerings sold. Sales over Michigan of 90 to 96 lbs at 4 65@5 40; 90 Ohios of 77 lbs at $5 60; 70 to 79 lbs at $5 25@5 50; 200 Canada lambs at $7. Hogs—Receipts 4,000; market fairly active at $4 25@5 50 for medium to good; $4 50 for choice.

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } WEDNESDAY, December 20, 1871. }

Cattle.

The arrivals of cattle since our last report have been moderate but generally of an excellent quality. There being some of the finest cattle offered and sold that have been put on any market. The market during the latter pa t of last week continued fair, and with an increased attendance of dealers, caused partly by the reduction of freights, the market ruled better with more competition among buyers for choice lots of cattle. Everything was sold and the market closed firm with a fair prospect for the coming week. This week the market opened up with a fair supply of cattle offering, but the feeling among buyers in regard to the future coming not so good, the market owing to their holding back and refusing to purchase at figures as high as ruled last week is not quite so active, although there is sufficient buyers to take all the cattle offering. Trade is rather slow, at prices a shade lower than ruled last week, say ¼c, but if the runs do not come heavy the balance of the week, dealers will succeed in disposing of all stock on hands at pretty near old prices. This week there have been some usually choice cattle offered some of which have sold as high as 6c per lb.

On the whole the market during the week past, like the Allegheny market of last Monday, has been satisfactory to sellers of cattle, and the prices realized for good stock were much better than dealers generally anticipated.

Stockers.

The supply of stockers on sale for some time has been small, and since the advance on fat cattle there is a better feeling among farmers and purchasers, with a reasoned confidence in the future of cattle. Some farmers who sold their fat cattle cheap, and at the time intimated they would not feed any, are now making inquiry for stockers, but in most cases they want to purchase very low prices. Following are the prices current for the different grades of cattle as sold on this market: Extra $7 50; prime $7; good $6 to $6 25; fair $5; medium $4 50; inferior $3 75; scalawags $2 75.

Hogs.

The arrivals of hogs during the week closed have been about equal to the current demand, and under the influence the market has ruled pretty steady with but little change since our last report. The weather for some time has been exceedingly favorable for the hog trade, and in many places in the west they have commenced to pack, this removed any surplus of hogs that would find their way here, and helps to make us a better market, as for some time past has been free from gluts so common every once in awhile when hogs are plenty. Both New York and Philadelphia, and also the small interior towns of the State are purchasing hogs liberally, and the demand may be said to be fully as good as the supply. Until this demand slacks off or the runs prove unusually heavy there will be but little change in the market. The following are the rates current for the different grades of hogs: Extra, Philadelphia, $4 90 to $4 95; good to prime, Philadelphia, $4 75 to 225 and $4 65; good to prime, New York, 180 to 200 lbs, $4 40; still fed hogs $4 25; rough to common, $4 00.

Sheep.

The arrivals of sheep this week have been rather heavy and consisted principally of common stock among which were many lots of extra or Christmas sheep. The market is not so good as last week, sales are not made so quickly, and prices, some of the dealers say, are from ½c to ¾c lower. A good many sheep are still reported, and the prospect is not discouraging. The following are the rates current for the different grades as bought and sold here: Extra, 100 to 110 lbs, $5 50 to $6 25; good to prime, 85 to 90 lbs, $5 ¼ to $5 25; decent to fair, 80 to 85 lbs, $4 25 to $4 75; medium to common, 70 to 75 lbs, $3 75 to $4 00; foot rot and scalawags, by the head, $2 00.

Cattle Sales.

SMITH, WATSON & BRIGGS SOLD

No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
1	12,760	@ 6c	1	12,740	@5 25
22	20,660	5 37	16	20,840	5 50
21	21,060	6 05	19	19,840	5 50
2	3,700	6 06	14	15,400	5 25
1	5,600	6 00	1	5,400	5 25

HEDGES, TAYLOR & HUFF SOLD

19	14,850	@3 75	17	19,350	@4 80
1	1,440	4 00	21	23,070	5 10
19	14,940	4 00	17	21,160	5 00
19	18,780	4 00	7	7,560	5 00
2	1,500	4 00	2	1,300	4 00
3	112,340	5 12	3	2,300	4 00
2	2,600	4 50	2	2,070	4 62
19	20,700	4 50	1	1,460	4 00
19	13,740	4 90	15	16,770	5 00

HOLMES, LAFFERTY & GLASS SOLD

2	2,200	4 25	18	19,800	4 50
2	2,400	4 50	18	20,160	5 00
18	20,520	4 75	15	20,085	5 20
19	15,970	4 21	19	20,900	5 30
19	20,900	4 80	19	21,280	5 30
2	2,100	4 65	17	21,420	5 25
19	15,950	4 75	19	21,850	5 30
3	3,280	3 00	3	3,120	3 75
3	3,280	3 25	3	3,180	3 50
19	14,990	5 75	3	2,220	4 00
19	19,070	4 62	19	20,330	5 00
2	2,550	4 12	2	2,100	4 12
3	11,270	4 00	13	11,980	4 12
1	1,480	2 00	4	2,140	3 00
21	22,680	5 01	1	1,020	4 00
21	19,950	2 12	60	57,600	6 25
19	14,250	4 75	19	19,760	4 50
4	3,720	4 50	4	3,820	4 87
5	6,110	4 00	1	1,000	4 00

HAZLEWOOD & BLACKSTOCK SOLD

17	20,800	5 12	17	22,300	5 30
19	21,540	5 62	1	1,120	5 00
14	13,850	4 62	2	1,970	5 25
2	2,220	3 50	18	17,620	4 75
18	18,450	4 51	17	20,730	5 00
14	19,600	6 37	18	21,330	5 50
19	20,110	5 62	1	1,400	5 00
2	2,550	4 00	1	1,410	5 00
2 bulls	1,850	3 00	1	1,000	4 00
2	2,560	4 00	18	18,450	4 75
18	20,340	4 75	1 bulls	1,000	4 00
18	20,340	4 75	1 bull	1,310	2 50
19	17,760	4 75	1	2,000	2 50
19	19,960	5 87	1	1,380	5 00

Hogs.

HEDGES, TAYLOR & HUFF SOLD

No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
93	21,170	@5 60	1	230	@4 00
109	23,650	4 60	72	11,300	4 60
122	26,660	4 75	17	2,190	4 50
42	10,000	4 75	17	4,000	4 60
116	25,140	4 50	17	4,870	4 50
18	4,400	4 70	35	5,870	4 50
18	4,400	4 70	35	10,790	4 50
18	4,670	4 60	85	11,680	4 60
41	10,000	4 75	35	11,680	4 50
101	24,540	4 60	120	26,860	4 50
1	4,200	4 50	17	2,870	4 50
23	3,670	4 60	119	26,960	4 50
73	16,260	4 60	17	3,020	4 75
91	20,160	4 60	18	10,970	4 75
91	9,100	4 50	18	5,000	4 50
63	10,950	4 50	18	10,990	4 50
63	11,300	4 45	20	4,300	4 50
63	14,000	4 50	64	14,000	4 50
19	4,230	4 75	64	14,190	4 60
110	25,300	4 50	17	27,000	4 60
82	12,760	4 45	35	10,780	4 50
14	2,960	4 75	35	12,000	4 50
91	12,770	4 40	91	20,480	4 50
71	15,410	4 50	18	4,230	4 40

HAZLEWOOD & BLACKSTOCK SOLD

92	20,520	@4 60	1	230	@4 00
50	10,980	4 30	39	11,050	4 40
1	4,200	4 50	35	10,790	4 50
23	3,670	4 60	19	4,900	4 50
91	20,160	4 60	17	2,870	4 50
91	24,740	4 56	91	20,650	4 50
91	21,160	4 40	91	20,650	4 50
95	16,040	4 60	68	13,650	4 60
63	14,000	4 50	63	14,000	4 50
109	12,940	4 60	68	16,650	4 50
40	10,130	4 60	68	16,650	4 50
47	10,950	4 55	131	29,000	4 60
47	10,950	4 60	91	20,980	4 55
119	27,200	4 62	127	28,300	4 60
119	25,200	4 62	120	27,450	4 60
39	6,540	4 50	36	10,350	4 60
39	10,000	4 50	39	10,350	4 50
39	21,910	4 40	7	1,300	4 35

SMITH, WATSON & BRIGGS SOLD

46	11,950	@ 4 40	47	12,350	@ 4 55
108	26,510	4 75	17	3,990	4 77
19	1,940	4 90	91	17,800	4 60
3	3,190	4 60	97	25,770	4 50
91	20,650	4 60	48	12,000	4 50
92	19,950	4 50	111	30,050	4 57
92	19,950	4 50	111	25,960	4 50
74	14,400	4 75	10	2,510	4 60
91	20,650	4 60	91	2,400	4 50
19	4,650	4 50	17	4,700	4 60
91	20,650	4 60	91	20,650

THE VERY LATEST.

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

Message from the President.

Covering Correspondence Called for by the House in Regard to Matters in Cuba.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—The President sent a brief message to the House of Representatives to-day, in response to the resolution offered by Gen. Banks on the 6th inst., requesting information relating to the execution of medical students in Havana, and the failure of the Spanish Government to carry out in its West India colonies the reforms particularly promised by statesmen in Spain. The correspondence commences as far back as September 14, 1870, in November of that year Secretary Fish addressed United States Minister Sickles a letter, in which the latter was instructed to represent to the Spanish Government the strong desire to have enforced the decree of emancipation of slavery in the Spanish West India Colonies. Spain owed it to herself to fulfill the just expectations of the civilized world in this respect. She owed it to the United States to carry out in good faith the repeated pledges.

Minister Sickles to Secretary Fish, January 19, 1871, says: He furnished the Minister of Colonies with a copy of the latter's note respecting slavery and political reforms in Cuba and Porto Rico. The Minister informed him that the law passed by the constituent Cortes, June 23 1870, had been fulfilled and obeyed in all its parts in Cuba from the date of its publication, although the absence of the regulations for its execution makes it necessary that what would have otherwise been a matter of mere form shall be made the basis for regular forms providing for the execution of each case. Because in order that the execution of law may suffer no obstruction, the Government determined a basis to serve as a starting point, and has transmitted to them the provisions of the law in order that definite regulations for carrying out the decree in question may be taken up without delay.

Secretary Fish on February 20th, last, instructed Minister Sickles to continue to urge the fulfillment of the emancipation decree and other promised reforms.

Among the papers is a letter from Vice Consul Geneiro Hall to Assistant Secretary of State Davis, dated November 28th, giving a circumstantial account of the alleged desecration of the grave of Castanon, "the Key West martyr," as he was held to be by a portion of the Peninsular population. The medical students, he says, did not break out mercenly inside a few scratches with a diamond upon the glass plate that encloses the niche and removed or destroyed a wreath and replaced it with one of their own selection. The Government was utterly powerless and thoroughly intimidated by the public excitement and was finally obliged to compromise with them by ordering a drum court-martial to try the prisoners. It was found necessary, to prevent more serious conflict, that some at least of the young men should be sacrificed. The court-martial, composed of equal numbers of regular and volunteer officers, convened at two o'clock in the morning, and at noon the sentence was given out. The execution took place at five in the afternoon, up to which hour the volunteers kept up their demonstrations before the prison and palace. Throughout the progress of this affair the Government displayed its utter helplessness in dealing with such emergencies. The regular force at its command was insignificant, while that of the volunteers was large, readily concentrated, and, as in this instance, when under impulse of purpose, overpowering. Mr. Hall concludes by saying that during the commotion great alarm prevailed among the Cubans, and not a little among foreigners. They were well-founded apprehensions that a general massacre of Cubans was intended, and to this possibly may be attributed one of the motives for the compromise with the volunteers and sacrifice of the young men; hence he sent the following telegram on November 27th: "Volunteer demonstration against authority of Government powerless. Serious apprehension of massacre every moment. Vessel of war advisable. [Signed.] "HALL."

The Secretary of the Navy replies to that part of the resolution calling for copies of instructions to naval commanders of the United States in Cuban waters for the protection of the lives and property of American citizens, and to maintain the dignity of the American flag. The Secretary furnished the General with specific instructions. The first is to Rear Admiral Hoff, dated April 7th, 1869, in which he says: "Appeals are constantly made to you for the protection of persons, some of whom are justly entitled to it, while others have only claim to your sympathy and friendly offices. You must exercise your best judgment, and discriminate in such cases; but all citizens of the United States, native-born or naturalized, in good, lawful pursuits, peaceably respecting the laws of the country, and taking no part to overthrow the Government, are entitled to your protection as fully as your own countrymen."

On May 6th, 1869, the Secretary of the Navy wrote Admiral Hoff that reports came to the Department, through the press and telegraph, of several American vessels having been searched by Spanish men-of-war in Spanish waters, and in the high seas of nations in the Gulf of Mexico." While the United States Government wishes to exercise every practicality in regard to the difficulties now existing in the island of Cuba, they cannot consent that our merchant vessels shall be interfered with in their lawful pursuits, or overhauled and examined unless they are found under some of the flags of Spanish authority. This they can only do by the usages and intimidations of war. This is a subject in which the United States have always been very sensitive, and [illegible] which they went to war with Great Britain in 1812. While you are in no way to interfere with the difficulties now existing in Cuba, or to compromise the Government by taking part with either side, it will be your duty to give full protection to American citizens and American commerce whenever an opportunity occurs for you to do so. This is the particular object for which a naval force is at this moment kept in Cuban waters."

In an order to Rear Admiral Poor, dated June 3d, 1870, the secretary of the Navy said, among other things: "It is desired that you shall keep some of your vessels stationed on the northern and southern ends of the Island of Cuba, or at such ports as the so-called insurgents should convene at for escape from the Island. While the department does not desire that you should seek opportunities to encourage these dangerous enterprises to seek the protection of the United States flag, you will in no case refuse them protection when they approach you, or your fleet, and when they are once under the protection of the flag, their persons and property will be held sacred against the interference of the Spanish authorities, in no case will you give up any person escaping from the Island except by authority from this Department."

On March, 24th, 1870, the Secretary of the Navy instructed Rear Admiral Poor to proceed to Santiago de Cuba, and inquire into the treatment of the American Vice Consul and citizens, and Admiral Poor having reported the result of this movement, the Secretary of the Navy wrote to him saying: "Your action in all things is approved."

In instructions to Rear Admiral Poor, dated April 18, 1870, the Secretary of the Navy said: "While you will be careful in any contingency which may arise to pay due respect to the sovereignty of nations, you will take care at all times to maintain the right and dignity of your own."

Information having been received that affairs are much disturbed in the Eastern Department of Cuba, and summary arrest and executions constantly taking place, and that there was a dangerous and disorderly state of affairs in that quarter which might affect some of our citizens and interests, the following instructions were sent by the Secretary of the Navy to Rear-Admiral Lee on the 19th of July, 1870: "As soon as possible, after the receipt of proof, visit Santiago de Cuba, in the Severn, or send some other vessel of your fleet to that port, and elsewhere in the vicinity, for the protection, if necessary, of our citizens and interests.

The Secretary of the Navy wrote to Rear Admiral Lee, August 18th, 1871, as follows: "Your dispatch of the 5th instant, relating to the Hornet, was duly received. In answer, you were instructed on the 11th instant, by telegraph, to send a vessel to Port au Prince to inquire into the subject. Mr. Bassett's request for a naval vessel to proceed to Port au Prince having been complied with, that is presumed to be sufficient for the present."

On the 28th of November, 1871, information was received through the Department of State of great excitement among the Spanish volunteers in Havana, and of the proceedings which afterwards resulted in the executions of the students mentioned in the resolution of the House. The situation of affairs appeared to be greatly disturbed, and to threaten serious danger to the persons, property and interests of our citizens residing there. In view of this, a telegram the following telegraphic orders were sent, by direction of the Secretary of the Navy, from Rear Admiral Lee to the commander of the monitor Terror, then at Key West, and to the commanders of the United States steamers Tuscarora and Juniata, then lying at Pensacola and New York, and to the commandants of the navy yards at Pensacola and New York:

"NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, } November 27, 1871. }

"*Urgent*—To Commodore Weaver, Commanding iron clad Terror, Key West, Florida: Proceed forthwith with the Terror under your command to Havana. Communicate immediately and co-operate with Consul General Hall for the protection of American citizens and interests. Telegraph the time of receiving this, also as to your actual departure from Key West and arriving at Havana. Use all means of dispatch, and disregard all coaling instructions. By order of the Secretary of the Navy."

On December 5th, all the vessels had arrived at Havana, and Commander Weaver, senior officer present, called upon the Captain General in company with the commander of the Nipsig, and Consul General Hall. He reports that he met with a courteous reception, and that at the date of his dispatch of the 9th instant the city of Havana was quiet and orderly.

Fatal Stabbing Affray at Shamburg, Pa.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

SHAMBURG, PA., December 21, 1871.

About nine o'clock last night at the Shamburg House, John McCracken and Charles Young, while under the influence of whisky, quarreled and were parted. Young clinched McCracken again and stabbed him six times, two of which are considered fatal. Young was at once arrested and sent to the lock-up.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH

Sixteen to forty degrees below Zero in Canada during the thirty-six hours ending last evening.

The Commissioners to the Centennial will meet in New York on the 3d of January, and commence its investigations there.

At Williamsport, Pa., yesterday, Judge Gamble continued the injunction restraining Bishop O'Leary from removing Father Stocke from his pastorate. This is the first case of the kind in America and limits the power of a bishop over his priests.

The steamship City of New York, from Liverpool, arrived at New York yesterday.

The New York *World* states editorially it is rumored Tweed has resigned his directorship in Erie, and will be succeeded by Daniel Drew.

An outhouse was burned at Little Rock, Ark., yesterday morning, and a negro boy who had taken shelter therein perished in the flames.

In the Wharton trial yesterday the examination of Mr. Tracy, chemist, was continued. He said he found distinct traces of arsenic or antimony in the liver of General Ketchum.

The town of Oran, in South America, experienced forty distinct shocks of earthquake within nine hours. The streets were split open, and every building tumbled down. Only one person was killed, all the inhabitants having fled to camps outside.

The friends or Governor Scott in the South Carolina Legislature tried to force a vote on impeachment yesterday, but were defeated. This is regarded as a victory for the impeachers.

The Supreme Court of Ohio yesterday announced its decision unanimously sustaining the constitutionality of the law authorizing Cincinnati to spend ten millions for the Southern Railroad.

Three boys, Lee Grosvenor, Will Coon and Charley Fallett, broke through the ice on the Muskingum, near Marietta, yesterday and were drowned.

Ex-Empress Eugenie has returned to England.

The English Parliament is prorogued until February 6th.

The thermometer at Syracuse yesterday forenoon indicated ten degrees below zero. At Watertown, N. Y., it ranged between twenty-five and thirty degrees below all day. The St. Lawrence at Cape Vincent is bridged with ice.

ADDITIONAL RIVER DISPATCHES.

Evansville.

EVANSVILLE, December 21.—River closed with ice at 5 A. M. Clear and cold till noon; mercury 4 at 6 A. M.; now cloudy; mercury 20; signs of snow. River swelling from the effects of a gorge below. No arrivals since 10 30 last night.

Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, December 21.—River frozen over at the foot of Broadway to Covington and Fifth, Kentucky, supposed from the influence of gorges. Weather moderated somewhat; cloudy.

Baltimore Live Stock Market.

BALTIMORE, December 21.—Cattle receipts very light and to-day 5¾@6¾c; first quality fancy steers about 6¾@6¾c; inferior and ordinary 5@5¾c; receipts 1,500; sales 1,200. Hogs in fair demand; supply good; quoted at 6¼@6¾c net; receipts 5,665. Sheep in light supply; good sheep brisk; common slow; quoted at 5@6c; receipts 2,120.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

An Air-Line to New York.

New Roads in Pennsylvania.

MR. GARRETT'S PROPOSED AIR-LINE TO NEW YORK.

The lease of the New Jersey railroads and canals to the Pennsylvania Railroad seems to have convinced Mr. John W. Garrett of the importance of securing an air-line to New York. The Chester, Pa., *Republican* states that engineers have been sent over the route to examine the feasibility of constructing the road. They have passed through Harford county near Bel Air, and thence by Deer creek to the Susquehanna, above Port Deposit, at which point a bridge will be constructed. Thence the road will pass to Oxford, reaching the Brandywine near Sager's mill, and thence to West Chester, from which place the course will be over the line now being surveyed for the contemplated narrow-gauge road through Newtown to Philadelphia. The Baltimore and Ohio Company have a large surplus of capital—estimated at twenty millions—which, it is said, they are willing to invest in this road.

The *Baltimore Sun* is authority for the fact that the steering issue of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, negotiated about a year ago in London, at 92½, is now selling there at 101. This loan was all taken up immediately after the books were opened. We hear of a sale of 250 shares Baltimore and Ohio Railroad stock bought on foreign account, at $147 per share.

THE CHICAGO EXTENSION.

The Warren, O., *Chronicle* thinks if the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad extends its lines west from Pittsburgh to Chicago, as it has promised to do, preference will be given to the route through the Mahoning Valley, and that Warren will be a point on the route. Considerable right of way has already been secured by the Chicago Company, in a direction that brings Warren on the line.

NEW ROADS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

At a late meeting in Lancaster of the directors of the Peachbottom Railway Company, it was resolved to construct a branch from King's bridge, on the west branch of the Octorara, to Quarryville. A committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions.

Hon. Sobieski Ross, of Condersport, Perry county, has, after three months' negotiations with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, secured the transfer of the charter of the Jersey Shore, Pine Creek and Buffalo Railway to parties who have agreed to build the road. Mr. Ross gives assurance that the work will be pushed to a speedy completion.

The Media *American* states that the Pennsylvania and Delaware Railroad, from Pomeroy to Delaware Water Gap, has now most of the grading and masonry completed. The same paper says: "The Wilmington and Western, connecting Wilmington with Oxford, Chester county, Pa., is progressing, and it is thought the grading will be completed by spring as far as Landenberg. The Oxford and Peachbottom needs but $2,000 more to start it. The Lancaster and Reading Narrow-gauge is awaiting a subscription of $5,000 per mile and the right of way. The Philadelphia and Chester Central, *via* Newtown Square, has many enthusiastic supporters, and it is now known as the road which we would soon commence. A road of the usual gauge from Lowell, by way of Ridley creek, touching at Media, to Chester, has been talked of, and such a bill may be presented by Mr. Cooper at the coming session of the Legislature; no, however, unless there is a fair prospect of building the road."

The Directors of the Miriam Railroad Company, at a recent meeting, resolved to change the name of the corporation to that of the Harrisburg and Potomac Railroad Company.

The survey of the Berks County Railroad will be completed in about two months, and the work will then be put under contract.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company contemplates building an immense round house at Marietta, Lancaster county.

The trains on the Sunbury and Lewistown Railroad are now making connection with the trains on the Northern Central road.

AFRICA REDEEMED.

Address of the District Secretary of the American Colonization Society.

Not always shall it be said, the dark cloud, which for centuries has rested over Africa, like a pall of death, is the same as when Homer wrote it; like it is being rent, and light—the light of eternal life—is beaming upon its coast with a brightness which foreshadows the early removal of mortal darkness from the land overshadowed with wings. Soon shall Ethiopia stretch out her hands to God.

The way is prepared for a successful and rapid spread of the Gospel in Africa, through the benign labors of the American Colonization Society.

The Republic of Liberia has its existence from the Colonization Society, and that republic is acting in concert with the Society in extending the sway of the Redeemer over the land. It is already by it to be known to all that the constitution of Liberia recognizes the moral obligation of the nation to extend the blessings of the Christian religion, as well as civilization, to the benighted hordes of the entire continent, and increasingly so as the ability shall be given. Its language is, "*To regenerate and enlighten this benighted continent.*" And this work is being done on a most commendable and magnificent scale. But help is needed—warm and generous hearts are wanted to push forward the work to a more complete termination. Rev. A. T. Richardson, writing from Monrovia, the capital of Liberia, on January 4, 1870, says:

"I have been in Africa forty-one years, watching with no little interest the progress of the Gospel of Christ, and I am pleased to say fruitfully. Such such bright and cheering prospects have never been witnessed before. Throughout Liberia, the kind visitation of the Spirit of Almighty God has been felt, convincing sinners of the error of their way, and quickening cold-hearted professors to a sense of their duty. The heathen all around us are stepping into the Gospel pool and are being made whole. The darkness of idolatry and vice is receding, while the light of the glorious Gospel is spreading far and wide. It would gladden your hearts to see the change your faith to witness what is going on. The natives are calling for preachers in the North and South ends of the Island of Cuba, or at such ports as the so-called insurgents should convene at for escape from the Island. While the department does not desire that you should seek opportunities to encourage these dangerous enterprises to seek the protection of the United States flag, you will in no case refuse them protection when they approach you, or your fleet, and when they are once under the protection of the flag, their persons and property will be held sacred against the interference of the Spanish authorities, in no case will you give up any person escaping from the Island except by authority from this Department."

On March, 24th, 1870, the Secretary of the Navy instructed Rear Admiral Poor to proceed to Santiago de Cuba, and inquire into the treatment of the American Vice Consul and citizens, and Admiral Poor having reported the result of this movement, the Secretary of the Navy wrote to him saying: "Your action in all things is approved."

In instructions to Rear Admiral Poor, dated April 18, 1870, the Secretary of the Navy said: "While you will be careful in any contingency which may arise to pay due respect to the sovereignty of nations, you will take care at all times to maintain the right and dignity of your own."

Information having been received that affairs are much disturbed in the Eastern Department of Cuba, and summary arrest and executions constantly taking place, and that there was a dangerous and disorderly state of affairs in that quarter which might affect some of our citizens and interests, the following instructions were sent by the Secretary of the Navy to Rear-Admiral Lee on the 19th of July, 1870: "As soon as possible, after the receipt of proof, visit Santiago de Cuba, in the Severn, or send some other vessel of your fleet to that port, and elsewhere in the vicinity, for the protection, if necessary, of our citizens and interests.

The Secretary of the Navy wrote to Rear Admiral Lee, August 18th, 1871, as follows: "Your dispatch of the 5th instant, relating to the Hornet, was duly received. In answer, you were instructed on the 11th instant, by telegraph, to send a vessel to Port au Prince to inquire into the subject. Mr. Bassett's request for a naval vessel to proceed to Port au Prince having been complied with, that is presumed to be sufficient for the present."

On the 28th of November, 1871, information was received through the Department of State of great excitement among the Spanish volunteers in Havana, and of the proceedings which afterwards resulted in the executions of the students mentioned in the resolution of the House. The situation of affairs appeared to be greatly disturbed, and to threaten serious danger to the persons, property and interests of our citizens residing there. In view of this, a telegram the following telegraphic orders were sent, by direction of the Secretary of the Navy, from Rear Admiral Lee to the commander of the monitor Terror, then at Key West, and to the commanders of the United States steamers Tuscarora and Juniata, then lying at Pensacola and New York, and to the commandants of the navy yards at Pensacola and New York:

"NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, } November 27, 1871. }

"*Urgent*—To Commodore Weaver, Commanding iron clad Terror, Key West, Florida: Proceed forthwith with the Terror under your command to Havana. Communicate immediately and co-operate with Consul General Hall for the protection of American citizens and interests. Telegraph the time of receiving this, also as to your actual departure from Key West and arriving at Havana. Use all means of dispatch, and disregard all coaling instructions. By order of the Secretary of the Navy."

On December 5th, all the vessels had arrived at Havana, and Commander Weaver, senior officer present, called upon the Captain General in company with the commander of the Nipsig, and Consul General Hall. He reports that he met with a courteous reception, and that at the date of his dispatch of the 9th instant the city of Havana was quiet and orderly.

Fatal Stabbing Affray at Shamburg, Pa.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

SHAMBURG, PA., December 21, 1871.

About nine o'clock last night at the Shamburg House, John McCracken and Charles Young, while under the influence of whisky, quarreled and were parted. Young clinched McCracken again and stabbed him six times, two of which are considered fatal. Young was at once arrested and sent to the lock-up.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH

Sixteen to forty degrees below Zero in Canada during the thirty-six hours ending last evening.

The Commissioners to the Centennial will meet in New York on the 3d of January, and commence its investigations there.

At Williamsport, Pa., yesterday, Judge Gamble continued the injunction restraining Bishop O'Leary from removing Father Stocke from his pastorate. This is the first case of the kind in America and limits the power of a bishop over his priests.

The steamship City of New York, from Liverpool, arrived at New York yesterday.

The New York *World* states editorially it is rumored Tweed has resigned his directorship in Erie, and will be succeeded by Daniel Drew.

An outhouse was burned at Little Rock, Ark., yesterday morning, and a negro boy who had taken shelter therein perished in the flames.

In the Wharton trial yesterday the examination of Mr. Tracy, chemist, was continued. He said he found distinct traces of arsenic or antimony in the liver of General Ketchum.

The town of Oran, in South America, experienced forty distinct shocks of earthquake within nine hours. The streets were split open, and every building tumbled down. Only one person was killed, all the inhabitants having fled to camps outside.

The friends or Governor Scott in the South Carolina Legislature tried to force a vote on impeachment yesterday, but were defeated. This is regarded as a victory for the impeachers.

The Supreme Court of Ohio yesterday announced its decision unanimously sustaining the constitutionality of the law authorizing Cincinnati to spend ten millions for the Southern Railroad.

Three boys, Lee Grosvenor, Will Coon and Charley Fallett, broke through the ice on the Muskingum, near Marietta, yesterday and were drowned.

Ex-Empress Eugenie has returned to England.

The English Parliament is prorogued until February 6th.

The thermometer at Syracuse yesterday forenoon indicated ten degrees below zero. At Watertown, N. Y., it ranged between twenty-five and thirty degrees below all day. The St. Lawrence at Cape Vincent is bridged with ice.

ADDITIONAL RIVER DISPATCHES.

Evansville.

EVANSVILLE, December 21.—River closed with ice at 5 A. M. Clear and cold till noon; mercury 4 at 6 A. M.; now cloudy; mercury 20; signs of snow. River swelling from the effects of a gorge below. No arrivals since 10 30 last night.

Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, December 21.—River frozen over at the foot of Broadway to Covington and Fifth, Kentucky, supposed from the influence of gorges. Weather moderated somewhat; cloudy.

Baltimore Live Stock Market.

BALTIMORE, December 21.—Cattle receipts very light and to-day 5¾@6¾c; first quality fancy steers about 6¾@6¾c; inferior and ordinary 5@5¾c; receipts 1,500; sales 1,200. Hogs in fair demand; supply good; quoted at 6¼@6¾c net; receipts 5,665. Sheep in light supply; good sheep brisk; common slow; quoted at 5@6c; receipts 2,120.

FAMILY READING.

The Pittsburgh Weekly Commercial.

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TEXAS—The Weekly COMMERCIAL is furnished to subscribers at $2 00 per year. Clubs of ten, $1 75. In clubs of twenty, $1 50, and one copy gratis to the getter up of the Club. Sample copies sent free. Address, THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh, Pa.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Criminal Court—Judge Collier.

In the case of the Commonwealth *vs.* James Paxton, indicted for larceny of $120 from one Jacob Grossmeyer, a verdict of not guilty was rendered.

Next came the case of Charles Ghrest, indicted for assault and battery, on oath of Rudolph Doshan. A verdict of not guilty and the county to pay the costs was rendered.

John Finn, Teddy Finn and George Knox were next placed on trial, for the larceny of some baskets from the store of John Wilson. John Finn was found guilty, Knox not guilty, and in the case of Teddy Finn a nolle prosequi was entered.

Kate Gamill was found guilty of the larceny of some lace from the store of Alex. McCracken. Sentence deferred.

The case of the Commonwealth *vs.* Stephen Busch, indicted for larceny, was next called, John R. Sproul prosecutor. The missing property was a United States pre-emption note for two dollars. Verdict guilty. Sentence deferred.

A. Stang, charged with larceny as bailee, on oath of John H. Thompson, followed. The prosecutor stated that he had left a trunk with the defendant for safe keeping, and when he called for it could not get it. Verdict not guilty.

The Commonwealth *vs.* M. Trautman and Charles Britton followed. The defendants plead guilty to the larceny of a small amount of tea and sugar from Josephine Dauber. Sentence deferred.

Commonwealth *vs.* James McQuade, indicted for assault and battery on oath of J. W. Briggs. Prosecutor is the driver on a street car, and was ejected from his car by the defendant. Not guilty.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Commonwealth against

Henry Smith, Martin Hussey, et al.,
A. B. Herschell, Wm. Bair, et al.,
Thomas Henry, Michael Fee,
Wm. Albrees, et al., David Hopkins,
Michael Graham, Jacob Seigel,
John Finn, et al., A. L. Gibson,
John James, Andrew Rutger, et al.
John Connelly, David Hopkins,
John Fritz, Frank Ketterly
William Mizell, George Hall.

Common Pleas—Judge Sterrett.

In this Court yesterday, in the case of Agnew & Wilcox *vs.* McKeesport, on book account, a verdict was rendered for plaintiff in the sum of $33.

The next case called was that of Hunter *vs.* Millican, Hershey & Co., on book account, for $115. Ury stable at McKeesport, and one of defendants' men called for horses to haul the lumber to the railroad; he further writes that twenty-seven new converts have been made at one station, of whom one-third were natives and Congres; and at another station sixty-two converts, of whom two-thirds were natives.

Such seasonable and encouraging information Liberia and in the regions beyond, anywhere and everywhere to stimulate to greater exertion the friends of Arrington and Brewerville, on the St. Paul's River. Those large-hearted, noble-minded gentlemen who founded these settlements respectively, by the consecration of thousands of dollars, have now a field to exercise what they are doing in the benighted and bleeding Africa. Mr. Arrington gave more than seven thousand dollars for the settlement which bears his name. And the Brewerville settlement owes its existence to a like act of beneficence by its generous founder.

Who will do likewise? Christian men and women of the African race, make the best missionaries for the African people. In His own mysterious wisdom, God has so ordered that the white man cannot endure the climate, while to the color d man it is peculiarly invigorating and healthful.

May not this cause, fraught with such blessings to Africa, share the munificence of Christians of every name, to whom much less has been entrusted? Was it not the two gentlemen above referred to, that speedily the notes of salvation may fall on the millions who have never listened to the story of the cross?

An opportunity will be given the citizens of Pittsburgh and vicinity to lend their aid to this noble enterprise.

Thirty dollars given at one time constitutes a life member, and one thousand dollars a life Director of the Society.

JAMES J. WOOLSEY,
District Secretary.

THE BORGIA IN INDIANA.

A Woman Charged With Poisoning Two Husbands.

And now Indiana has a case of Borgiatism. A few months ago a citizen of Rockport, in the lower part of the State, named Batchelor, died under such circumstances as to induce the belief that he had been poisoned. After his burial the corpse was disinterred, and the stomach sent to Louisville for analization. A careful analysis, by a skilful chemist, gave evidence of the presence of arsenic in the stomach, and certain suspicious circumstances which came to light resulted in the recent arrest of his widow upon a charge of producing his death by means of the administration of the poisonous drug. She is now in prison awaiting trial. At the time of her marriage with Mr. Batchelor she was a widow. It has recently been suggested that her first husband died under suspicious circumstances, and so strong has the suspicion grown that last week the body was exhumed, and the stomach taken out with the intention of subjecting it to an analysis similar to that made in the case of her last husband. The examination is to be made by the Evansville Medical College, and for this purpose the stomach of the deceased was taken to the city a few days ago and turned over to the medical authorities. The case has excited great interest in the neighborhood.

CITY MATTERS.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Jane Coombs.

Library Hall was crowded last night by one of the most fashionable audiences which ever witnessed a dramatic performance in this city. A piece entirely new to our public was produced—to wit—John Oxender's comedy "The World of Fashion." We exceedingly regret that the unusual pressure upon our columns, precludes any attempt at criticism of the piece, more particularly as it gives ample scope for comment, both so far as the play is concerned and also to the playing. Miss Jane Coombs appeared as *Marie* an orphan, the various phases in her history being peculiarly interesting and their portrayal being rendered in an unusually artistic manner. Mr. Robinson as *Mons Pontefoie* impersonates a character which presents him to the public in a new complexion, that of a simple, stuttering, good hearted *pseudo* simpleton, and of his acting we can only say it was good. The piece is of a novel character and presents the company in an uncustomary light.

The Coombs company will remain with us another week, in order to give the many, who have been unable to obtain seats this week, an opportunity of seeing them before they leave us. The programme is as follows: Christmas (Monday) matinee, "Lady of Lyons;" at night, "The Hunchback;" Tuesday night, "London Assurance;" Wednesday, "The Love Chase;" Thursday, "The Wife's Secret;" Friday (benefit of Miss Coombs), "School for Scandal;" Saturday matinee, "The World of Fashion;" night, "Love's Sacrifice.

To-night, for Miss Coomb's benefit, "Romeo and Juliet" will be produced.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Last night the Wyndham Comedy Company repeated to a miserable house Daly's comedy "Divorce." It is a sin and a shame that this company should appear to empty benches, and if the public are satisfied to allow people of such unmistakable talent to leave this city without merited patronage, it is their own fault if but mediocre entertainments are offered to them.

To-night "Ours" will be given.

Fifth Avenue Opera House.

James M. Ward and "Through by Daylight" drew a good house last night. The lovers of the sensational will find a piece to their heart's content at Manager Beamer's house.

Mr. M. Leffingwell arrived in town yesterday, and will appear at the Fifth Avenue Opera House during Christmas week.

Trimble's Varieties.

Manager Alms's new company has made a decided hit, and possesses sufficient drawing power to crowd his house. No better variety show was ever given in this city or, indeed, in any other.

List of U. S. Patents.

Issued to citizens of Western Pennsylvania for the week ending December 19, 1871, and each bearing that date. Reported weekly for the COMMERCIAL, from the office of Alex. H. Burr, Solicitor of Patents and Attorney in patent cases, Washington City, D. C.:

No. 121,930—Liquid Soap. D. Cardullo, Titusville, Pa.

No. 122,014—Projectile. J. Henry Helm, Pittsburgh, Pa.

No. 122,052—Plan for the manufacture of Bessemer steel. John B. Pearse, Swatara township, Pa.

TRADE MARKS.

No. 595—Sheet iron. Rogers & Burchfield, Pittsburgh, Pa.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

COUNCIL meeting to-day.

A MAN named Gilbert Duff was severely injured yesterday by falling off a coal car at East Liberty. Dr. Perchment is attending him. He is in the employ of Mellon Bros.

ABOUT four o'clock yesterday morning, a fire broke out in Eckert's saloon in the Ninth ward, Allegheny, but was extinguished before much damage was done. No alarm was sounded.

THIS evening the annual exhibition of the preparatory department of the Western University will be given at the hall of the institution, corner of Ross and Diamond streets.

YESTERDAY morning, Mr. John R. McCune preferred charges of raising and counterfeiting a couple of drafts on the Nassau bank, New York, against George H. Irwin. One information charges him with altering, raising and counterfeiting a draft on the First National Bank of Bridgeport from a small amount to $4,277 60, and for raising a draft on the Nassau Bank of New York, from a small amount to $2,720 40. Irwin was committed to jail to await a hearing next Wednesday.

CHRISTMAS.

What to Buy for a Holiday Present, and the Place to Get It 15 to 20 Per Cent. Cheaper Than Any Place Else.

The prevailing impression that the observance of Christmas as a holiday is of Christian origin is erroneous, as the custom dates back many years prior to the Christian era. It was observed by the ancients as the anniversary of the birth of the Sun God, as upon that day the sun was nearer the earth than at any other time during the year. It is now, however, observed in all Christian nations as the anniversary of the birth of our Savior and is claimed as a Christian institution, since when has the custom of exchanging presents at that time been observed in commemoration of the action of the wise men It is not, however, of the origin of the day or the early manner of its observance that we desire particularly to speak at this time, as doubtless most of our readers are familiar with both, but it is the present manner of gift-making we would speak. It is not always the most costly gift that is most highly prized by the recipient, and we would advise those of our readers about to make presents to endeavor to select articles not only suitable for that purpose, by something something useful. Now, what would be a more acceptable present to wife, sister, daughter or lady friend than a nice set of furs, such as can be purchased at William Fleming & Co.'s, 139 Wood street. There is no article of ladies' apparel more economical, stylish or comfortable than a set of furs and in fact they have become almost indispensible as an article of dress. We refer our readers to the house of William Fleming & Co. because they will there find a larger stock from which to make their selections, a better class of goods and prices from fifteen to thirty per cent. less than at other houses. The stock of ladies misses and childrens furs embraces all the various styles and qualities and are sold in sets or by the single article at prices to suit purchasers. The Messrs. Fleming & Co. have also on hand a large and well selected stock of robes, fox, wolf, and buffalo, as well as Afghans sleigh wraps, etc., which they are selling rapidly at very low prices. Call and make your holiday purchases.

S. Hamilton & Co., 51 Fifth Avenue, Second Floor, is Certainly the Best Place to Buy Dinner and Card Sets.

Hundreds of families in this community say so who have bought of them heretofore, and it is especially so at this time because they have an immense stock of pianos and organs on hand which they must sell before the holidays, and they will do it even if they have to sell at cost. Now is the time to be prudent to carry their great stock over until spring. Their stock consists of such well known and popular instruments as the Decker & Barnes' Patent Rim Block Pianos, Cramer & Co.'s pianos, and the beautiful parlor Gem Pianos, of Bradford & Co.'s make. In organs, the Taylor & Farley Celestes Organs stand pre-eminent, its name alone carrying with it the assurance of assured excellence, and all the perfection possible to be found in a Reed instrument; also, a full line of the beautiful and much admired George Woods & Co.'s Parlor and Vestry Organs. S. Hamilton & Co. have heretofore prided themselves on their ability to sell these superior instruments at prices even lower than other dealers were asking for much inferior, inartistic goods, and the success they have been rewarded with, especially for the Holiday trade, that they can defy competition. Call and see and secure a bargain. Don't waste time to run get enough money to pay right down for an instrument, but bring what you have and what you can, whether much or little, and we can assure you of getting a greater bargain than you ever perhaps ever get again. We would urge you to come to-morrow, as to-day is the last day we will be open. If you cannot come through the day, come in the evening, as we will be open 7 to 9 P. M. every evening until after the holidays. Remember the place, 51 Fifth avenue, second floor, one door above Burnell's Museum.

A Singer for Christmas.

If the contents of Santa Claus' presents could only be tempered with a little more sound judgment than is usually displayed, time honored as it is, it would become more and more free from error, and would the object aimed at by the giver be attained. The giver should always study the interest of the person for whom the present is intended, and endeavor to make them of positive use by the purchase of some article that would supply the want. More attention should be given to this matter. Just now we can think of no more appropriate article as a holiday present for either mother, wife, sister or lady friend than a Singer sewing machine, the magic of which charms away the cares of life, lightens the household burdens, and brings sunshine and gladness to the home circle, whither it is introduced as health, happiness and comfort are its consequent results. When we recommend a sewing machine of course we mean a good machine, one that does its work well, and not one of the many apologies for a machine that are upon the market. Such a machine as the Singer would not fail to render entire satisfaction and be productive of all the good results ment oned above. As an evidence of the superiority of the Singer, their sales this year have been double those of any other machine. Office, No. 58 Fourth avenue, No. 20 Sixth street, have already sold a large number of machines for the holidays, but have a large line stock left to select from. Call and examine them

TERMS

Holiday Presents.

Dry Goods cheap.

McKEE, MURPHY & Co.

**"The New